# Good Sports Policy

## Prepared for Blackburn Cricket Club

## Purpose

This Good Sports policy outlines our club's commitment to preventing and reducing alcohol and other drug (AOD) harms and maintaining a safe, healthy and family friendly environment across all club activities, including games, training and events.

The policy reinforces our responsibility and commitment to club members, volunteers and guests, recognising the role sporting clubs play in building strong, healthy communities.

By following this policy, the club will:

- Meet legal obligations, including liquor licensing (where relevant), smoking and vaping regulations, and duty of care responsibilities.
- Reduce alcohol and other drug-related harm and support member wellbeing.
- Promote a safe, inclusive and family friendly environment.
- Model positive behaviours for young people and the wider community.
- Strengthen community trust through consistent, responsible leadership.

More information on implementing the Good Sports policy is available on the Good Sports portal: https://portal.goodsports.com.au/app/policy/.

## General Principles

This policy aims to strengthen our club practices across key areas including alcohol, illicit drugs, smoking and vaping, mental health, juniors, governance and community leadership.

The club takes a risk management and harm reduction approach to all club activities.

Members, volunteers and guests are expected to follow the policy, relevant laws and club standards to help maintain a safe and inclusive environment.

The Good Sports policy supports the club to:

- Address alcohol responsibly, ensuring best practice and complying with legal requirements.
- Increase awareness of mental health, smoking and vaping harms, their impacts and how to access support.
- Reduce illicit drug-related harm by setting clear expectations, and providing respectful, appropriate support.
- Promote the health and wellbeing of young people by reducing exposure to alcohol and other drugs and creating a safe environment.
- Strengthen governance and community leadership through consistent incident management and clear policies.

## Managing Policy Breaches

All club members are expected to understand and follow this policy. The club committee is responsible for upholding the policy and addressing non-compliance.

If a breach occurs, the following process will apply:

1. Explain the policy - committee member will speak with the person or people involved, outline the relevant section, and explain how the behaviour does not align with the policy.
2. Address continued non-compliance - if the behaviour continues, at least two committee members will manage the situation and determine appropriate action, which may include asking the person to leave the club facilities, event, activity or removing online access.
3. Manage repeated breaches - ongoing or repeated breaches may result in further action, such as formal warnings, temporary suspension, or review of club membership.
4. Escalate serious incidents - serious matters will be escalated to the club committee and, where required, relevant authorities or emergency services.

All breaches will be managed respectfully, consistently and in line with the club's duty of care.

## Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the club committee to ensure it remains current, relevant to club operations and aligns with legal requirements and community expectations.

Visit: www.goodsports.com.au for information regarding the Good Sports program.

## Policy Requirements

**Legal Compliance**

Our club is committed to complying with relevant laws and regulations in relation to alcohol service and consumption.

- Our club is aware of our liquor licence or exemption requirements, and we review our licence annually to ensure we continue to meet all conditions and requirements.
- Our club complies with its liquor licence or permit requirements in relation to signage.
- Our club ensures alcohol is only sold, supplied or consumed during the times specified in our liquor licence.
- Our club ensures that alcohol is not sold or supplied to members or guests who are aged under 18 years.
- Our club prevents intoxicated people from entering the premises.
- Our club ensures that all bar staff follow Responsible Service of Alcohol practices when refusing service to an intoxicated person.
- Our club has a process for managing people who are intoxicated on the premises.
- Our club complies with all requirements of any alcohol-related local laws.

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**Alcohol**

Our club is committed to reducing alcohol-related harm within our club and community.

- Our club ensures that only people aged 18 years or older serve alcohol.
- Our club ensures bar staff do not consume alcohol while on duty to support safe and responsible service.
- Our club ensures that water is available free of charge when alcohol is sold, served or consumed to encourage water consumption, reduce dehydration risk, and meet guidelines for responsible alcohol service.
- Our club provides a range of non-alcoholic and low-alcohol drinks to provide members and guests with alternative drink options that lower the risk of alcohol-related harm.
- Our club prices non-alcoholic and low-alcohol drinks lower than the price of full-strength alcohol drinks to make them more accessible and affordable.
- Our club does not conduct happy hour/s drink promotions, to ensure that rapid and excessive alcohol consumption is not encouraged.
- Our club does not conduct promotions on discounted alcoholic drinks, to ensure that rapid and excessive alcohol consumption is not encouraged.
- Our club does not allow drinking competitions or drinking games at any club activity, including club celebrations, to ensure rapid and excessive alcohol consumption is not encouraged.
- Our club encourages safer celebrations and events by not offering an ‘open bar’ or providing unlimited access to alcohol.
- Our club ensures vouchers or cards for alcoholic drinks are not provided, including at club celebrations, to ensure that excessive alcohol consumption is not encouraged.
- Our club ensures that bar staff hold a valid Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) certification.
- Our club provides opportunities for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to learn about alcohol and ways to prevent or reduce alcohol-related harm.

- Our club ensures that spirits are not sold or supplied as double measures or 'shots' to discourage rapid and excessive alcohol consumption.

- Our club is committed to advertising and promoting events that support responsible service of alcohol practices and encourage members and guests to plan safe transport to and from the club.

- Our club ensures that all club outings and trips, including end-of-season player trips, follow responsible alcohol practices to lower the risk of alcohol-related harm, and promote a positive club culture.

- Our club encourages members to plan their transport to and from games and events to prevent drink driving, and reduce the risk of injuries, road crashes and fatalities.

- Our club ensures substantial food is available when alcohol is consumed to support responsible service and reduce intoxication risk.

- Our club has a plan in place that ensures an appropriate and timely response to incidents involving alcohol.

- Our club ensures that 'zero-alcohol' drinks are managed in the same way as alcoholic drinks, including not promoting, selling or supplying these to people aged under 18 years.

**Illicit Drugs**

Our club is committed to protecting health and wellbeing by raising awareness of illicit drug harms.

- Our club provides opportunities for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to learn about illicit drugs and ways to prevent or reduce drug-related harm.

- Our club clearly communicates its expectations about illicit drug use and related behaviour (at the club, during events, and on trips).

- Our club has a plan in place that ensures an appropriate and timely response to illicit drug use, or incidents involving illicit drugs.

**Smoking and Vaping**

Our club is committed to reducing smoking and vaping-related harm.

- Our club complies with the smoking and vaping laws and regulations in our state or territory, as well as any local laws that may apply.
- Our club displays smoke-free and vape-free signage and communicates these areas to coaches, members, officials, volunteers and guests.
- Our club does not sell cigarettes or tobacco products.
- Our club ensures that coaches, members, officials and volunteers do not smoke or vape while involved in official club activities.
- Our club promotes information about support services and resources that help people to quit smoking or vaping.
- Our club provides opportunities for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to learn about the risks and harms associated with smoking and vaping.

**Juniors**

Our club is committed to reducing young people's exposure to alcohol and other drugs.

- Our club does not permit alcohol being sold, supplied or consumed at junior games, training or competitions.
- Our club does not permit alcohol being sold, supplied or consumed at junior events or presentations.
- Our club does not permit alcohol to be consumed in the change rooms or changing areas when people aged under 18 are present.
- Our club ensures alcohol brands and products are not promoted or advertised on junior team clothing or equipment.

**Mental Health**

Our club is committed to improving mental health outcomes within our club and wider community.

- Our club provides opportunities for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to build their mental health awareness and learn about available support services.

- Our club promotes information about mental health support services.
- Our club has a plan in place to respond to critical incidents that have an impact on mental health.

**Community Leadership**

Our club is committed to being a community leader, fostering a safe, healthy and inclusive environment.

- Our club does not endorse alcohol-only gifts, awards, or raffle prizes.
- Our club is proud to be part of the Good Sports program and is committed to promoting our participation on our club social media channels, website, newsletters, and other communications.
- Our club displays and/or promotes alcohol and other drug support services as part of our commitment to supporting the health and wellbeing of our members and broader community
- Our club prohibits coaches, members, officials and volunteers from coaching, playing or officiating if under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs.
- Our club committee commits to implementing the Good Sports program, and actions that reduce alcohol and drug-related harms to support a safe, inclusive, family-friendly environment.

**Governance**

Our club is committed to maintaining strong governance structures and policies that support a safe environment.

- Club coaches, officials, members and volunteers abide by the club's Social Media Policy. This includes not posting images of themselves or others drinking alcohol, smoking or vaping, on official club social media channels or the club website.
- Our club ensures the Good Sports policy is accessible for all coaches, officials, members and volunteers.
- Our club's coaches, officials, members and volunteers abide by our Code of Conduct.

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- Our club has a plan for managing any media enquiries about alcohol or drug-related incidents involving the club, including that all media enquiries will be handled by the club's designated spokesperson.

Stephen Franklin

