

Melbourne Cricket Club Football Club

Illicit Drug and Alcohol Policy

1. Overview

Melbourne Cricket Club Football Section Inc (**Club**) acknowledges its role in promoting healthy environment standards amongst its Members and the broader community.

2. Objectives

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- (a) encourage and assist Members to realise their full potential within an environment that actively promotes health, safety and wellbeing;
- (b) prevent illicit drug and alcohol related harm to individuals, property and the reputation of the Club;
- (c) ensure a supportive and inclusive environment for all Members;
- (d) provide support to Members who wish to address patterns of alcohol abuse or illicit drug use;
- (e) ensure the Club and its Members comply with law; and
- (f) encourage moderation and a responsible attitude to the consumption of alcohol.

3. Application

- (a) This Policy applies to all Members, players, officials and supporters of the Club.
- (b) This Policy applies in addition to the Club's Constitution and Rules (**Rules**) and Code of Conduct (**Code**). In the event of any inconsistency between this Policy and the Rules or the Code, the Rules and the Code will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

4. Alcohol

4.1 Liquor licence

The Club recognises the importance of holding a liquor license and the value it adds to the Club, enabling it to generate income and hold social functions. However, the Club accepts the responsibilities and expectations of the community in strictly adhering to liquor licensing laws.

4.2 Serving alcohol

Alcohol will be served in accordance with the requirements of the Club's liquor licence and with the safety and wellbeing of patrons in mind. Accordingly:

- (a) the Club will maintain the currency of its liquor licence;
- (b) the liquor licence will be displayed at the bar;
- (c) persons under the age of 18 years are not permitted to serve alcohol;
- (d) only Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) trained volunteers or bar staff will be permitted to serve alcohol;
- (e) the Club will discourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol;
- (f) alcoholic drinks will be served in standard drink measures; and
- (g) the Club will display posters on liquor license regulations and education.

4.3 Promoting responsible use of alcohol

- (a) The Club will wherever possible actively promote and sell food whenever alcohol is available.
- (b) The Club will actively demonstrate its attitude relating to the responsible use of alcohol.
- (c) The Club will not advertise, promote or serve alcohol at junior events or activities (if any).
- (d) The Club will educate Members and supporters about this policy.
- (e) The Club will pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources.
- (f) The Club will provide at least one alcohol-free social event.
- (g) Alcohol advertising will only appear at the bar.
- (h) The Club will not promote alcohol through 'cheap drink' strategies such as happy hours.

4.4 Intoxicated patrons

- (a) Alcohol will not be served to any person who is intoxicated.
- (b) Servers will follow procedures, provided in their training, for dealing with and refusing alcohol to intoxicated patrons.
- (c) Intoxicated patrons will be asked to leave Club premises.
- (d) Intoxicated persons will be refused entry into Club premises.

4.5 Underage drinking

- (a) Alcohol will not be served to persons under the age of 18 years.
- (b) Staff will request proof of age for anyone under 25 years.
- (c) Only photographic ID will be accepted.

4.6 Transport

- (a) Bar staff shall encourage Members and visitors to make alternative safe transport arrangements if they are considered to exceed .05 blood alcohol concentration.
- (b) Telephone calls will be made free of charge to arrange a taxi or other transport.
- (c) Contact telephone numbers for taxi services will be displayed at the bar.
- (d) In specific cases, where a designated driver who has been nominated by the Club and that person has accepted the responsibility to drive others home safely, will be provided non-alcoholic drinks free of charge by the Club.

4.7 Fundraising, functions and prizes

- (a) Promotion such as drink promotions, drinking competitions and all-inclusive cover charges should not be conducted on Club premises
- (b) The Club will not promote or provide alcohol or drink vouchers for player awards.
- (c) Prizes for raffles and fundraising will not have an alcohol focus.
- (d) The Club will use food or canteen awards rather than alcohol as prizes for player performance.
- (e) The Club will monitor and ensure any club trips, particularly end of season player trips, strictly adhere to responsible behaviour and alcohol consumption in accordance with the principles of this policy.

4.8 Bar management

- (a) A list of all RSA trained Club members, including Committee members, will be displayed near the bar.
- (b) Non and low alcoholic alternative drinks will be available at all times.
- (c) Tap water will be provided free of charge from the bar.

- (d) An incident register will be maintained to record any incidents that may occur in relation to compliance with this policy and the operation of the social rooms bar.
- (e) Bar staff will not be permitted to drink alcohol while serving behind the bar.

4.9 Committee responsibilities

The presence of Committee members is essential to ensure the operation of the bar and policy compliance. At least two Committee members who are RSA trained are required to be present at all Club functions when the bar is open. Key responsibilities of Committee members are to:

- (a) meet visiting police, cooperate and assist with any inquiries;
- (b) ensure the admission of members and guests and completion of the visitor's book;
- (c) encourage compliance in respect of persons under 18 years of age on premises;
- (d) ensure intoxicated people are refused service and are asked to leave the premises;
- (e) ensure strict compliance with the Club policy in accordance with the key provisions of the Liquor Licence; and
- (f) record any incidents in the incident register.

5. Illicit Drugs

5.1 Illicit Drugs

Illicit Drugs includes but is not limited to illegal drugs (such as cannabis), pharmaceutical drugs when used for non-medical purposes (such as painkillers and tranquilisers), and other substances when used inappropriately (such as inhalants).

5.2 Use, possession and supply of Illicit Drugs

A person to whom this Policy applies must not possess, use, administer or supply Illicit Drugs:

- (a) within the vicinity of or inside the Club rooms;
- (b) anywhere on the grounds of or within the vicinity of Beaumaris Secondary College;
- (c) inside any club house, immediately outside any club house, car park or anywhere within the boundaries of any particular venue or reserve where the Club's players are training or playing; or
- (d) at any other time or place which may lead a reasonable person to make a connection between the possession, supply or use of an illicit drug and the Club.

5.3 Medically prescribed drugs

If a Member is taking medically prescribed drugs to manage a medical condition that may interfere with their playing performance, the Member must notify the Club of that fact. The Club, in consultation with the Member, may make adjustments to the match requirements of that Member.

5.4 Reporting

Persons to whom this Policy applies acknowledge and agree that upon any allegation of a breach of section 5 of this Policy, the Club may at any time report the incident to the Police.

6. Breach of Policy

6.1 Discipline of Members

The Committee may discipline Members for breach of this Policy in accordance with clause 4 of the Constitution.

7. Review of Policy

The Committee will review this Policy as it deems necessary, but not less than every two years.