



EDITHVALE ASPENDALE SPORTING CLUB

ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT AND DRUG POLICY

MARCH 2016

Alcohol Management and Drug Policy

Purpose

The purpose of the Edithvale Aspendale Sporting Club's Alcohol Management and Drug policy is to ensure that all players, coaches, members and guests are fully informed of the Club's responsibilities in ensuring the welfare of all members.

This policy provides the basis for the responsible use of alcohol by members and guests of the Edithvale Aspendale Sporting Club and further forms the basis for ensuring the Club is free of drug use.

The Club has a duty of care to ensure the aims of the Club are met in encouraging players, coaches, and members to realise their potential within a safe environment.

The encouragement of players/coaches/member or guests to consume alcohol to excess will not occur and the possession, use or supply of illegal drugs or performance enhancing drugs or supplements will not be tolerated.

It is important to note that any matters reported to the Committee will be held in confidence and each year the Club will appoint an appropriate person as the Club's Manager of Alcohol and Drug policy who will have a number of responsibilities to ensure the safety and well being of all persons who attend the Club.

The aim of this Policy is to:

- Enhance your awareness of the harms associated with risky drinking and drug use
- Reduce risky consumption and use of alcohol and drugs
- Create a safe environment for the community to engage in sporting activity and social interaction.

Important Information AFL Victoria - Alcohol Management

The alcohol issue continues to be a serious concern for the Community and the AFL and there are a number of key factors that make the role of the AFL, and Edithvale Aspendale Sporting Club important when managing these matters, these matters include:

- Alcohol is the second most widely used drug in Victoria where death and hospitalisation occur,
- More young people are drinking at risky levels
- Alcohol related problems are increasing and can be measured by ambulance attendances, road accidents, assaults and arrests
- Alcohol is often the cause of other social harms such as unsafe sexual activity, violence against women, gambling and drug taking
- Alcohol consumption amongst people who play sport appears to be at higher levels than the rest of the community

Drug Management

The Australian Football League (AFL) is a signatory to the World Anti Doping Code (WADA) who is the organisation that is tasked with fighting doping in World Sport.

This includes Community Football Clubs as we are bound by the AFL Anti Doping Code and as a result the Australian Sports Anti Doping Authority (ASADA) has the responsibility to implement the code and as a result ASADA can investigate and test players at Community level which includes the Edithvale Aspendale Sporting Club players.

Any player who purchases a prohibited substance as defined in the WADA prohibited list or a product containing a prohibited substance can be investigated and subject to sanctions under the AFL Anti Doping Code.

The risk to Community football is that supplements are not endorsed by the AFL as there is a high risk of contamination from prohibited substances. Any player purchasing supplements over the internet risk being identified by Australian Customs and being referred to ASADA for investigation.

It is important to note players do not have to be tested to breach the code and receive a sanction. Sanctions under the AFL Anti doping Code can be up to four years and prevent a person from playing any sport or having any role at any sporting Club.

Drugs (Illegal and Legal)

Illegal drugs are used by many people in the Community but are not just limited to young adults, so it is likely that some members of our Club will have access or knowledge on how to access drugs whether performance enhancing or not. Further to the alcohol issue in society there are a number of major issues confronting any sporting Club namely:

- Performance enhancing drugs and or supplements
- Illegal Drugs(amphetamine, speed, heroin, LSD, cocaine, cannabis
- Synthetic drugs or derivatives
- Legal drugs (Prescription or synthetic)
- Alcohol abuse or pre-loading

Illegal Drug Use

The possession, use, distribution, selling or the encouragement of any illegal drug within Club rooms, surrounding precinct or at any function organised by or for the Club is prohibited and may result in immediate suspension of membership rights during the conduct of any investigation.

Generally the Club will have an escalating scale of enforcement on the issue of illegal drugs ranging from welfare assistance, education, written warning, suspension or cancellation of all member rights at the Club.

The Club will encourage any person to report any concerns regarding the welfare of any player, coach, volunteer or member to the Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy whilst ensuring the identity of any person who provides information is not recorded and is kept confidential. The only person entitled to this information regarding identity will be the Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy and the Club President.

The identity of any person providing information will be protected.

Supplying Drugs

If it is suspected or known that a member of the Club is supplying illegal, legal or performance enhancing substances to other members of the Club, the Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy will;

- Report the information to the Committee and or President
- Receive Instructions on a course of action
- Monitor the situation and report on any evidence obtained
- If information unable to be verified, speak to the individual concerned to determine the truth of the information provided
- If admissions made, report to the Committee.
- Advise the individual that if the issue of concern continues the matter may be reported to Victoria Police or ASADA.
- Nothing in this Policy precludes the Committee from reporting the matter to Victoria Police or ASADA in the first instance.
- Committee to make decision on Club sanction of the individual concerned and reserves the right to make a determination of immediate cancellation of membership

The ongoing welfare of all members will be the major consideration when reporting these matters.

Managing Illegal Drug Incidents

Where a member or other person becomes aware drug activity is occurring within the Club's jurisdiction, the member should be encouraged to report the matter to the Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy. For the purposes of this policy newly publicised Synthetic drugs that give a hallucinogen effect and prescription drugs not prescribed to the individual are contained in this section

Where the matter relates to illegal drug use the Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy will

- Report to the Committee or President
- Review the information provided
- Monitor the situation and decide on best course of action in consultation with the Committee and or the President
- Speak to the individual regarding the Club's concerns
- Remind the individual of Club's policy
- Offer support and assist with any referral to qualified alcohol and drug counsellors
- Continue to be available to offer assistance
- Report to President

In the event that an individual is under the influence of illegal drugs or otherwise, the Club will consider the following options;

- Contact medical assistance if required
- If a minor, contact the parents
- Supervise and monitor the health of the individual
- Ensure the health and safety of the individual
- Take possession of any drugs
- If the individual becomes violent or begins to hallucinate ensure the wellbeing of the individual and contact Victoria Police
- Inform the Club President or Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy

Managing Performance Enhancing Drug Incidents

The Club procedures regarding performance enhancing drugs and or supplements will be the same as the above with respect to managing Drug Incidents.

However there are some important **key messages for all players at Edithvale Aspendale Sporting Club as follows;**

- If a player is requested to undertake a doping test by ASADA, as a player you are required to complete this test.
- ASADA can attend the Club and request you participate in a test at any time and can attend Club functions.
- Do not purchase or use prohibited substances
- Do not purchase supplements over the internet
- Before you purchase or use any substance review the ASADA website or contact the ASADA hotline.

The ASADA website which has a number of education resources can be accessed at www.asada.gov.au.

The ASADA Hotline is 1300027232 and they can advise whether a substance is on the prohibited list.

It is important to note that the prohibited substance list is updated on a regular basis and it is the responsibility of the player concerned to make all inquiries prior to purchasing or using any substance.

The Club and AFL Victoria will be required to abide by any sanction imposed by ASADA.

In The Event Drugs or Prohibited Substances are found in Club Rooms

The Club will:

- Take possession of the suspected drug or prohibited substance
- Record the circumstances of seizure in the incident register
- Report to Club President and or Manager Alcohol or Drug Policy
- Secure drug in locked secured cabinet
- Consider shutting down the function
- Consider notification to Victoria Police
- Obtain details of any attending Police and signature in incident register once possession of the drug changes hands

Minors

In any event where a minor is found to be drunk or under the influence of drugs within the Club's jurisdiction, the parents of the minor taking into account the above will be contacted.

It should be noted that the Club has no legal standing in the investigation process of a criminal matter and that information obtained by an adult during these incidents may be inadmissible in any future court action.

However, when considering the health and wellbeing of the minor;

- All matters will be reported to the Committee
- Committee will take an action regarding any sanction to the individual.
- The sanction is at the discretion of the Committee.

- The Committee must take into account the merits of each incident and take into account the likelihood of further instances and any evidence presented on behalf of the individual.
- The sanction can only be appealed to the President.

Service of Alcohol

Alcohol will be served in accordance to the Liquor Licence issued to the Club taking into account the legislative requirements of Responsible Service of Alcohol provisions contained within the Liquor Control Reform Act 1988.

The requirements under this policy include but are not restricted to the following;

- The Club maintains a current Liquor Licence
- All requirements of the Liquor Control Reform Act will be adhered to
- No persons under 18 will be served alcohol
- Only Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) trained volunteers will have the responsibility of the management of the service of alcohol
- Names of RSA trained staff will be recorded in a RSA Register
- An incident register will be maintained and alcohol related incidents recorded for the reporting to the Committee of Management
- All patrons deemed to be intoxicated or drunk will not be served alcohol
- All patrons deemed to be drunk will be refused entry
- Drunk patrons will be asked to leave the premises and safe transport arranged
- No persons under the age of 18 will be served alcohol
- Only photo ID will be accepted as 'proof of age'

PENALTIES

Serve Alcohol to a Minor	\$17,000
Serve Intoxicated Person	\$17,000
Drunk on premises	\$17,000
Drunk refuse to leave	\$7,000

Alcohol Alternative

- Free tap water to be available at all times
- Non alcoholic and low alcoholic drinks to be available at all times
- Substantial food is to be available at all functions or alternatively the provision of food outsourced

Club Promotions

The Club will promote the Alcohol and Drug Policy regularly by:

- Ensuring a copy of the Policy is recorded on the Club website
- Displaying a copy of the Policy within the Club rooms
- Conducting an annual player information session to all players and guests regarding the Club's policy
- Consider at least one annual outsourced drug and alcohol seminar addressing this policy and to provide education to players, coaches and any members

Club Sanctions

Sanctions regarding alcohol or drug matters are on an escalation scale, however, the Club reserves the right to make an immediate decision of the individual's ongoing membership. The escalation of sanctions can take the form of the following:

- Consultation with parents or guardian
- Counselling and Mentoring by the Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy
- Referral to an Alcohol and Drug Counsellor
- Requirement to undertake volunteer work at the Club
- Requirement to undertake a drug test
- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Suspension of membership
- Fixed term cancellation of membership
- Reporting of matter to relevant agencies

Club Jurisdiction

A matter of significance is the advice to all players, coaches, members and guests that the Club's jurisdiction on matters of alcohol management and drug policy is that the Club's jurisdiction extends to the Club rooms and Regents Park precinct and all activities organised by or for the Club any location or venue including sponsor premises.

Committee

At least two Committee persons to be present at all Club functions with one to have RSA training. Attending Committee members have responsibility over the following;

- Ensuring patrons under the age of 18 are not served alcohol
- The recording of any incidents in the incident register
- The liaison with Victoria Police or Inspectors from the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation on their attendance at the venue

Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy

The Club will appoint an appropriate person or persons as the Manager Alcohol and Drug Policy. This person does not have to be a member of the Committee of Management, however, will have the responsibility of the following;

- Conduct an annual review of the Alcohol and Drug Policy
- Review the appropriateness of any promotions of any alcohol related promotions and report to the Committee
- Report to the Committee of any alcohol or drug related incidents or concerns
- To act as a liaison between players, coaches, members, guests and to gather intelligence
- Report on any matters of a confidential nature to the President taking into account the principles of natural Justice and Privacy of all those concerned.
- To investigate any matters as delegated by the Committee or President
- To conduct an alcohol and drug awareness seminar at the beginning of each playing season

Confidentiality

Subject to a decision by the Committee or the President to contact the parents or Victoria Police, will make its best efforts to preserve the privacy of those concerned.

It should be noted that when managing the reporting of incidents of either alcohol and drug abuse whether legal or illegal that the absolute privacy of those concerned cannot be guaranteed.

The Club reserves the right to seek advice from qualified alcohol and drug practitioners and consult with the league at any time.

Media

The President of the Club will be the sole media representative of matters concerning alcohol or drug use within the Club's jurisdiction.

No other member of the Club will communicate with the media on these issues. Any breach of this media policy may result in expulsion from the Committee

Policy Review

The Alcohol and Drug Policy will be reviewed annually.