

Warrnambool Wolves Football Club

Drug and Alcohol Policy



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President:	Sign: 	Name: Brett Gasper
Secretary	Sign: 	Name: Adrian Ciccocioppo

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Warrnambool Wolves Football Club (WWFC) is committed to providing a safe, healthy, family friendly environment for all players, officials and spectators. All members of the club have a responsibility to ensure reasonable care is taken to protect the health and safety of players and officials and that of others whilst in the environment by not being affected by alcohol or other drugs to the extent that it impacts on their own or another person's recreational enjoyment or safety.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all players, officials, volunteers or members of WWFC.

This policy pertains to any Wolves sporting activities and games including social functions, and attendance at courses and conferences.

3. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Policy, the Warrnambool Wolves Football Club defines drugs and alcohol as follows:

- "Drugs" refers to a chemical substance, whether it is legal or illegal, which may have the ability to impair a person's physical or mental capacity. These can include non-prescribed drugs, for example, but not limited to, speed, heroin, amphetamines, LSD, crack, cocaine, ecstasy, marijuana, etc.
- "Alcohol" refers to any beverage, containing an alcoholic content that temporarily impairs a person's physical or mental capacity.
- WWFC refers to Warrnambool Wolves Football Club
- MPIO refers to Member Protection Information Officer



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- "Member" refers to any playing or social member associated with the WWFC, whether financial (fee-paying) or not.

4. PROCEDURE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are:

- To ensure a safe, healthy, family friendly environment exists at Warrnambool Wolves Football Club by minimizing hazards associated with the inappropriate use of alcohol and other drugs, and
- To inform all members of the club of their obligations to control the risks relating to the use and/or abuse of alcohol and drugs.

5. PROCEDURE

The effects of intoxication and the regular use of or dependence on alcohol or other drugs are associated with impaired judgement and skills, reduced concentration, erratic behaviour, aggression and violence, absenteeism and increased accidents. These behaviours and activities may seriously affect member safety and ethical standards within the Warrnambool Wolves Football Club.

Members who have concerns about playing or associating with any other playing or social member due to possible alcohol or other drug use should consult with the President of the WWFC or the Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO).

All members of the WWFC are prohibited from selling, distributing, manufacturing, possessing or consuming drugs when on the premises or at any club function. Alcohol will not be consumed by a player whilst he/she is engaged in a game.

Playing members are prohibited from arriving at a match or returning to a match from any break under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

The right of members to consume alcohol or take other drugs socially is acknowledged, however it is inappropriate to do so at the WWFC as it places others at risk of harm and brings the WWFC and its 'family friendly' environment into disrepute. Therefore, the WWFC reserves the right to take action if a member is:

- affected by alcohol or other drugs, so as to endanger their own safety or the safety of any other person in the during the course of a match or social club function;
- found in the possession of drugs or unauthorised drug use equipment on the WWFC premises; or



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- affected by alcohol or other drugs, so that the member's performance is affected; or
- known to be acknowledging significant use or involvement in production of illegal drugs or alcohol via friendship groups, social media, playing groups or family.

Should these issues be brought to the attention of any of the WWFC Committee member, MPIO or coaching staff, the WWFC may take the following action, enacted by any member of the Committee or coaching staff after appropriate and confidential discussion:

- Immediately approach the member to discuss the issue and its implications
- suspend the player/member from matches or club functions where appropriate until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the committee and coaching staff
- remove the member from club functions if they pose a risk to themselves or others.
- Immediately contact emergency services if there is suspicion of a drug overdose at any club function
- provide support to the player regarding their use of alcohol or drugs
- refer the player to appropriate organisations to address the misuse or abuse of illicit substances.

The WWFC reserves the right to search its premises for illicit drugs and confiscate the substance in question.

Medically Prescribed Drugs

In circumstances where a member is taking medically prescribed drugs to manage a specific condition that may interfere with their playing performance, they are required to notify their coach. The coach, in consultation with the player, may make adjustments to the match requirements of the player concerned.

Club Functions

It is recognised that after match and weekend functions organised by the football club will involve the consumption of alcohol. It is expected that club members consume alcohol responsibly at these times. Use of drugs at these functions is prohibited by the Club. Should it come to the

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attention of committee members that drugs are being consumed at these times, action will be taken as previously described.

Should players or members be significantly intoxicated due to alcohol use at club functions, the club reserves the right to refuse the service of alcohol in accordance with the Liquor Licensing Act.

Driving under the influence

In accordance with the Liquor Licensing Act or the law, members of the WWFC are not permitted to drive a vehicle, whether their own or not, when that person has consumed alcohol or other drugs. The WWFC will accept no liability for any damage to a vehicle, injury to any person, or damage or injury to any third party, incurred while the driver of a vehicle is in breach of this Act or the law. All liabilities will rest with the driver concerned.

Resources:

- Alcohol & Drug Information Service (24-hour information and counselling)
Tel: 1300 13 1340
- Emergency Services: call 000 for ambulance or police attendance in an emergency

ENQUIRIES REGARDING OUR POLICY:

CONTACT: Brett Gasper

PHONE: 0437010451

EMAIL: brettgasper75@gmail.com