

Safe Transport Policy

Policy Name: Safe Transport Policy

Policy Number: V2

Document Type: Policy

Effective Date: May 2020

Last Reviewed: June 2023

Next Review: June 2026

Applicable Legislation: As per requirements for Good Sports Accreditation

This policy will be reviewed every three years or earlier if required by the organisation. The review will ensure it reflects both the community expectations and all legal requirements.



Overview

This policy outlines our procedures for safe transport after Volleyball WA (VWA) special events, functions and other VWA related activities where alcohol may be consumed. This policy will help to ensure our Association:

- Meets its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members, participants, staff and guests who attend any VWA special events, functions and other activities.
- Upholds the reputation of VWA, our sponsors and partners.
- Understands the risks associated with alcohol use and driving, and our role in minimising risk.
- Educates our members about standard drinks.

Policy Application

1. This policy applies to all VWA affiliates, members, participants and all other people or organisations which by agreement or otherwise, are bound to comply with this policy.
2. This policy applies to VWA business, activities, competitions and events

Background

Ensuring members, participants, staff and guests getting to and from VWA special events, functions and activities safely is an important part of being a responsible, healthy Association. Whilst VWA wishes to avoid Association members becoming intoxicated and notes the recommendation by the National Health and Medical Research Council to consume no more than four drinks in one sitting, as part of our duty of care we encourage our members, participants, staff and guests to plan safe transport home. This will reduce the risk of drink-driving, injury or worse.

Alcohol and drugs affect pedestrians and drivers' abilities to stay safe. They affect decision-making, reaction times, speed and distance judgements, concentration, balance, perception and alertness. It can also increase risk-taking behaviour by giving a pedestrian or driver a false sense of confidence.

Sporting Associations such as ours help prevent drink driving related tragedies in the community by improving safety around transport and minimising the risk of developing a drinking culture. Our Association recognises that:

- Drink driving is one of the main causes of road deaths in Australia.
- Driving when over the legal blood alcohol limit is illegal and hazardous to individuals and the wider community.
- Mixing drugs (including prescription medication) with other drugs or alcohol can seriously affect the ability to drive safely.

Responsibilities

VWA'S role and contribution in making this policy work is to:

1. Take all reasonable steps necessary to ensure that everyone in the organisation know:
 - a) What the policy is.
 - b) Their roles and responsibilities.
2. This will be achieved by:

- a) Including a copy of the Policy in Policy and Procedures Manual.
- b) Distributing the policy to all affiliates.
- c) Ensuring all VWA personnel and affiliates are educated on the policy.
- d) Including a copy of the policy on the VWA website.
- e) Notifying participants in all VWA activities that they will be required to comply with this policy;
 - I. Promoting strategies that encourage members, participants, staff and guests to plan how they'll get home safely before they go out e.g. pre-arranged transport.
 - II. Print safe transport messages on relevant VWA event / function / activity invitations or flyers.
 - III. Ensure the MC for special events / functions advises attendees that the Association is a Good Sports accredited Association, communicates the safe transport options and regularly reminds attendees to behave responsibly around alcohol.
 - IV. Ensure telephone calls can be made free of charge to call a sober person / taxi to provide transport from the Association or venue.
- f) Promoting low alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks as options and making these available at reduced prices in accordance with the VWA Alcohol Management Policy.

Affiliate's, member's, participant's, staff and guest's roles are to:

1. Comply with this policy and ensure information is made available;
 - a) Accept responsibility for their own behaviour, use good judgment and take a responsible approach towards alcohol consumption.
 - b) Encourage and assist others to use good judgment regarding alcohol consumption.
 - c) Make alternative transport arrangements to get to and from the activity safely.
 - d) Share a taxi or ride share (where available) with friends.
 - e) Consider arranging overnight accommodation.
2. Collaborate with VWA personnel to implement best practice.
3. Report any areas of concern to VWA in a timely manner.

Policy Statement

VWA will take all breaches of the policy seriously and will ensure they are dealt with promptly, sensitively and confidentially. Disciplinary action may be taken against a person who is found in breach of this policy, in accordance with the Complaints Management Procedure.