



BNCC Good Sports Policy Consolidated

Updated 1 July 2026

Good Sports Policy

Blackburn North Cricket Club Inc.

1 July 2026



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Purpose

This consolidated policy outlines our procedures for a balanced and responsible approach towards the following and represents our club's commitment to its members, volunteers, and visitors, acknowledging the role that sporting clubs and associations play in building strong and healthy communities.

- The service, supply, consumption, and promotion of alcohol at club games, events, functions, and other club-related activities.
- Handling of illegal drugs in the club setting and provides opportunities for coaches, officials, members, and volunteers to be educated about the harms of illegal drugs.
- For safe transport after club games, events, functions, and other club-related activities where alcohol may be consumed.
- For tobacco and e-cigarette / vaping use in club venues and at club games, events, functions, and other club-related activities.

This policy will help to ensure our club:

- Meets its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members, volunteers and visitors who attend any club games, events, functions, and other activities where alcohol may be consumed.
- Upholds the reputation of our club, our sponsors, and partners.
- Understands the risks associated with alcohol misuse and our role in minimising this risk.
- Complies with a valid liquor licence and associated terms and conditions where appropriate.
- More information about how to implement this policy and why it is important can be found at <https://portal.goodsports.com.au/app/policy>.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements. This Policy should also be read in conjunction with the Club's Code of Conduct and Behaviour Policy (1 July 2026).

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

Accreditation

Blackburn North Cricket Club was awarded the highest level of accreditation within the Good Sports Program in 2021 and remains Gold Accredited



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Alcohol and Illegal Drugs Management

A risk management approach will be taken in planning events and activities involving the sale, supply, or consumption of alcohol. Such events and activities will be conducted and managed in a manner consistent with liquor licensing legislation and this policy.

Alcohol and illegal drug use can lead to risk taking, unsafe, unacceptable and/or illegal behaviour. Excessive consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs will not be an excuse for unacceptable behaviour, particularly behaviour that endangers others or breaches the law, this policy, or any other policy of the club.

A person is defined as in a state of intoxication if their speech, balance, co-ordination, or behaviour is noticeably affected and there are reasonable grounds for believing that this is the result of the consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs.

General Principles

Blackburn North Cricket Club recognises the legal responsibilities and the financial and social benefits of holding and/or operating a liquor licence in the community. Level 3 Accreditation under the *Good Sports* program requires us to implement practices and policies regarding the responsible management of alcohol. As such, we will adhere to liquor licensing laws and the criteria of the *Good Sports* program. Specifically:

- Will not provide, encourage, or allow people aged under 18 years to consume alcohol.
- Substantial food (requiring preparation and/or heating) will be available when alcohol is available for more than 90 minutes and more than 15 people are present. Healthy food options will be provided, where possible.
- Our club will ensure that servers of alcohol will not consume alcohol when on duty.
- Our club recognises that not all club members may drink alcohol and alcohol is not the only revenue stream available. Our club will ensure that water is available.
- Our club actively encourages the sale of alternative products to that of alcohol and will ensure that non-alcoholic drinks and low-alcoholic drink option are always available. Healthy drink options will be provided, where possible.
- Excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol is not encouraged. This means we do not conduct happy hours, cheap drink promotions or drinking competitions.
- Our club will encourage safe celebrations and events by not conducting 'all you can drink' functions.

Education

- The club provides an opportunity for coaches, officials, members, and volunteers to be educated about excessive alcohol consumption, harms of illegal drugs and importance of mental health in a club setting.
- Our club clearly displays the contact information for the ADF drug information line. Our club will also promote additional services that are available to members to deal with drug-related issues (e.g., local community health provider such as GPs).
- Our club will promote mental health materials from reputable mental health organisations within the club.

Leading by Example

- Our 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 and the values of the club.
- Our club recognises that driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is hazardous to individuals and the wider community. Accordingly, we ask that all attendees at our functions plan their transport requirements to ensure they arrive home safely and prevent driving under the influence of alcohol.

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- Our club will avoid providing awards, incentives and fundraising prizes that have an emphasis on alcohol as a reward.
- Our club does not permit the drinking of alcohol in the club change-rooms when members of junior teams or underage players in a senior team are present.
- Whilst engaging in club activities, members, volunteers, and visitors will not post images on social media of themselves or others drinking alcohol irresponsibly at club-related activities.
- When promoting events the club will adopt the practices of safe celebrations by:
 - Not overemphasising the availability of alcohol or referring to the amount of alcohol available.
 - Not encouraging rapid drinking or excessive drinking.
 - Giving equal reference to the availability of non-alcoholic drinks.
 - Displaying a clear start and finish time for the function.
 - Including a safe transport message, where possible and relevant.

Licencing Requirements

- Our club will ensure that a current and appropriate liquor licence is maintained and will comply with our Liquor licence requirements and all applicable local by-laws.
- Our club will ensure that alcohol is only served during the times specified in our liquor licence.
- Our club will ensure that only people aged 18 years or older serve alcohol and hold a current RSA.
- Alcohol will not be served to persons aged under 18 years.
- Bar servers and committee members will ask for proof of age whenever the age of a person requesting alcohol is in doubt. Photo or digital ID's will be accepted as 'proof of age'.
- Intoxicated people will not be permitted to enter our club premises.
- Servers will follow Responsible Service of Alcohol training procedures when refusing service to an intoxicated person.
- If a person becomes intoxicated (and is not putting other people at risk with their behaviour) the person will not be served alcohol but will be provided with water and options for safe transport home from our club, where available.
- Our club will ensure an Incident Register will be maintained (at the bar/canteen) and any alcohol-related incidents will be recorded on the register.

Safe Transportation

Ensuring members, visitors and guests getting to and from club games, activities and events safely is an important part of being a responsible, healthy club.

While Blackburn North Cricket Club wishes to avoid club 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 club's duty of care we encourage our members and visitors 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 clubs 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.

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Our club recognises that:

- Drink/Drug 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.
- This safe transport policy applies for all activities undertaken by the club that involve the serving and/or consumption of alcohol.

Our club will:

- Promote strategies that encourage members to plan how they will get home safely before they go out e.g., pre-arranged transport.
- Print safe transport messages on relevant club activity and event invitations or flyers.
- Ensure the MC for events or club committee members advise attendees that the club is a Good Sports accredited club, communicate the safe transport options and regularly remind attendees to behave responsibly around alcohol.
- Ensure telephone calls can be made to call a sober person to provide transport from the club or venue.

Where available, our club will also consider:

- Use of a club or community bus (such as council, school, or tourist buses).
- The bus or transport provided will be an alcohol-free zone (i.e., no alcohol will be permitted on the bus).
- The bus will not be used to transport members between licensed venues.
- Ensure people who have consumed alcohol can get home safely from the bus drop off point.
- Use a range of taxi, uber or ride share strategies.

Policy Application

Whilst engaging in club activities, members, volunteers, and visitors:

- Will accept responsibility for their own behaviour and take a responsible approach and use good judgment when alcohol is available.
- Will encourage and assist others to use good judgment when alcohol is available.
- Will not compete, train, coach or officiate if affected by alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Will not provide, encourage, or allow people aged under 18 years to consume alcohol.
- Will not participate, pressure anyone or encourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol (including drinking competitions) or consumption of illegal drugs.
- Will not provide alcohol only as an award to a player or official for any reason.
- Will not post images on social media of themselves or others drinking alcohol irresponsibly at club-related activities.
- Club committee members will uphold this policy and any non-compliance, particularly regarding Licensing Laws, will be managed according to the following process:
 - Explanation of the policy to the person/people concerned, including identification of the section of policy not being complied with.
 - Continued non-compliance with the policy should be managed by at least two committee members who will use their discretion as to the action taken, which may include asking the person/ people to leave the facilities or function.
 - All contact with the media related to an alcohol or drug-related allegation or incident within its jurisdiction will be managed by the club's official spokesperson.

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- Our club has an action plan/incident management process in place that covers our reaction and response to alcohol related incidents, illegal drugs found on club premises and mental health incidents.

Promotion & Perception

Our club will:

- Ensure this policy is easily accessible and will promote it via our social media, general announcements, and during events and functions.
- Educate members, volunteers and visitors about our policy and the benefits of having such a policy.
- Pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources.
- Actively demonstrate its attitude relating to the responsible use of alcohol and illegal drug use and promote positive messages through its social media platforms.
- Actively participate in the Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Good Sports program with an ongoing priority to achieve and maintain the highest Good Sports accreditation.
- Our club will ensure Good Sports merchandise is on display at our club.

Smoking and Vaping Management

Blackburn North Cricket Club recognises that:

- Environmental (second-hand) tobacco smoke is a health hazard and that non-smokers should be protected from it.
- Role modelling can have a significant impact on the younger members of our club.
- Smoke free areas make smoking less visible and less acceptable and contribute to reduced uptake of smoking among young people.
- Smoke free areas support smokers who are trying to quit as well as reduce their overall consumption.
- Outdoor smoke free areas help to reduce the amount of cigarette butt litter reducing clean-up costs, fire risk and children's health risk due to swallowing discarded butts.
- Smoke free environments can help attract new members and positively promote our club in the community.

Our club requires the following areas of the club's [facility/sporting ground] to be smoke free:

- All indoor areas.
- All outdoor playing/training areas.
- All spectator areas (standing and seated, covered, and uncovered).
- All canteen, catering, eating and drinking areas.

Smoke free areas will be signed (where possible) and promoted in club materials. A designated smoking permitted area is also available.

Cigarettes, e-cigarettes/vapes and any other tobacco products will not be sold, including from vending machines, at any time at or by our club.

To foster our club's reputation as a healthy environment, no images of club volunteers, members, officials, coaches, and players smoking at club-related activities will be placed on social media.

Our club will promote resources for members wishing to quit, including the national Quitline (13 78 48, quitnow.gov.au), where appropriate.

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Policy Review and Commitment

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements. This version has been reviewed and updated on 1 July 2026 to become effective for the 2026/27 Season commencing in August 2026. Next policy review June 2027.

Executive Committee Endorsement & Signatures

Signed: **Mark Nance**
Club President

Date: **1 July 2026**

Signed: **Gemma Hooper**
Club Secretary

Gemma Hooper

Date: **1 July 2026**

Enquiries Regarding Our Club Policy

CONTACT: **Gemma Hooper**

EMAIL: **bncsecretary@gmail.com**

Player Acknowledgement (where required/directed):

The following player/member/supported/other has read and understood the above Policy.

Person: Full Name: _____

Role: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Contracted Player: Yes / No

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Versions and Revision

1 st Version	Alcohol Management	16.6.2016	Current
	Safe Transportation	16.6.2016	
	Tobacco/Smoking Management	16.6.2016	
2 nd Version	Alcohol Management	20.9.2016	
	Safe Transportation	20.9.2016	
	Tobacco/Smoking Management	20.9.2016	
3 rd Version	Good Sports Policy (adopted)	9.9.2021	
4 th Version	Good Sports Policy (updated)	1.7.2024	
5 th Version	Good Sports Policy (updated)	1.7.2025	
6 th Version	Good Sports Policy (updated)	1.7.2026	