

GOULBURN VALLEY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION SAFE TRANSPORT POLICY

1. PURPOSE

This policy outlines our procedures for safe transport after association games, special events, functions and other association-related activities where alcohol may be consumed. It represents our association's commitment to its members, volunteers and visitors, acknowledging the role that sporting associations and clubs play in building strong and healthy communities.

This policy will help to ensure our association:

- Meets its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members, volunteers and visitors who attend any association games, special events, functions and other activities.
- Upholds the reputation of our association, 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.

2. RATIONALE

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

While the Goulburn Valley Hockey Association 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 association's duty of care we encourage our members 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.

3. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

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.

4. TRANSPORT FOR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

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

Our association will:

- Provide and promote free non-alcoholic drinks to designated drivers. This includes having a system in place to identify designated drivers (e.g. stamp or wristband).
- Ensure the MC for events or association committee members advise attendees that the association is a Good Sports accredited association communicate the safe transport options and regularly remind attendees to behave responsibly around alcohol.
- Ensure taxi numbers are clearly displayed in the club
- Provide and promote free taxi phone calls/taxi arrangements. This may include considering taxi vouchers as raffle prizes and awards or pre-ordering taxis, including maxi-taxis, to arrive at the end of a function.

Where available, our association will also consider:

- Use of an association or community bus (such as council, school or tourist buses) and:
 - 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.
 - People who have consumed alcohol can get home safely from the bus drop off point
- Use a range of taxi or ride share strategies such as:
 - Free telephone calls to arrange a taxi to provide transport from the association or venue.
 - The association committee will pre-order taxis to arrive at an association or venue at the conclusion of an association event or function.
 - Encourage association members to utilise a ride share service.

5. ASSOCIATIONS WITH A LIQUOR LICENCE FOR ANY ASSOCIATION EVENTS OR FUNCTIONS

Our association will promote low alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks as options and available at reduced prices.

Bar staff/ servers of alcohol will encourage members, volunteers and visitors to:

- Consume food while drinking alcohol at the association.
- Consume alcohol in moderation bearing in mind our commitment to the Good Sports program, its philosophies and policies.
- Make alternate safe transport arrangements if they are considered to be intoxicated or at risk of exceeding the legal limit (e.g. free call to a taxi/friend/family).

6. CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

Whilst engaging in association activities, members, volunteers and visitors will:

- Accept responsibility for their own behaviour, use good judgment and take a responsible approach towards alcohol consumption.
- Encourage and assist others to use good judgment regarding alcohol consumption.
- Make alternative transport arrangements to get to and from the activity safely.
- Share a taxi or ride share (where available) with friends.
- Consider arranging overnight accommodation.

7. PROMOTING THIS POLICY

Our association will:

- Educate members, volunteers and guests about our policy and the benefits of having such a policy.
- Implement strategies to create awareness of safe transport messages to association members (e.g. display standard drink posters/ cards to help patrons recognise what standard drinks are and the implications on drink driving).
- Ensure this policy is easily accessible and will promote it via our website, newsletters, social media, announcements during events and functions.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to association operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

SIGNATURES:

Signed:



Association President

Date:

27/11/2019

Signed:



Association Secretary

Date:

27/11/2019

Next policy review date is 30/11/2020.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING OUR POLICY:

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