

# GOULBURN VALLEY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION SMOKING MANAGEMENT POLICY

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## 1. PURPOSE

This policy outlines our procedures for tobacco and e-cigarette<sup>1</sup> use in association venues and at association games, special events, functions and other association-related activities. 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 association games, special events, functions and other activities.
- Upholds the reputation of our association, our sponsors and partners.
- Understands the risks associated with tobacco use and our role in minimising this risk.

## 2. RATIONALE

Goulburn Valley Hockey Association 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 junior members of our association.
- 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 cigarette 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 association in the community.

## 3. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Smoking restrictions for sporting associations differ from state to state, and are strengthened regularly. Our association will comply with all relevant state and local government smoking restrictions.

Our association recognises the importance of educating association members, particularly players, of the benefits of implementing a smoking management policy and will provide information to assist this process. In addition, the association will promote resources for members wishing to quit, including the national Quitline (13 78 48, [quitnow.gov.au](http://quitnow.gov.au)), where appropriate.

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'e-cigarettes' includes Electronic Non-Nicotine Delivery Systems and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems.

The following policy shall apply to all association members, volunteers and visitors:

- Smoking in this policy includes the use of any form of e-cigarette device.
- Cigarettes, e-cigarettes and any other tobacco products will not be sold, including from vending machines, at any time at or by our association.
- Many young people hold parents, teammates and coaches in high esteem and smoking around them sends the message that smoking is acceptable. Therefore we expect that coaches, players, officials and volunteers will refrain from smoking while involved in an official capacity for the association, on and off the field.
- To foster our association's reputation as a healthy environment, no images of association volunteers, members, officials, coaches and players smoking at association-related activities will be placed on social media.

#### **4. SMOKE FREE AREAS**

Our association requires the following areas of the association's facility 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.

Patrons wishing to smoke are expected to do so outside of our facility. There is an undercover area with seats, tables and rubbish bins to the left of our main entrance where smoking is permitted.

#### **5. PROMOTING THIS POLICY**

Our association will promote this policy regularly by:

- Placing a copy of the policy in association newsletters, printed member information and on the website.
- Promoting positive smoke free messages through the association's social media.
- Displaying a copy of the policy in the association rooms.
- Periodic announcements to members at functions.
- Placing non-smoking signage in prominent locations both indoors and outdoors.

#### **6. NON-COMPLIANCE**

All association committee members will uphold this policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

- Association members and/or guests should notify the committee of any breaches of this policy.
- A friendly approach will be made to the person smoking, explaining our association policy, and directing them to any areas where smoking is permitted.
- Continued non-compliance with the policy should be handled 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 association facilities or function.

## 7. 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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