



# HUNTER WESTERN HORNETS TOUCH FOOTBALL

## **ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT POLICY**

### **Rationale**

This policy provides the basis for a balanced and responsible approach to the use of alcohol Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football events and activities. This policy will help to ensure Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football:

- Meets its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members and others who attend our functions.
- Upholds the reputation of Hunter Western Hornets, sponsors, partners and *Good Sports*.
- Understand the risks associated with alcohol misuse and our role in minimising this risk.

While Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football does not sell alcohol we acknowledge that alcohol may be consumed at club related events and activities including meetings, after training or matches, end of season/presentation functions, sponsors' functions, trivia nights and other fundraising events. This includes representative tournaments at all levels.

Accordingly, the following requirements will apply to all players, coaches, officials, members, committee members, visitors, event host club facilities, functions and other activities undertaken by the Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football where alcohol is consumed.

### **General Principles**

- A risk management approach will be taken in planning events/activities involving the supply or consumption of alcohol. Such events will be conducted and managed in a manner consistent with liquor licensing legislation and this policy.
- A liquor license will be required at any event where alcohol is to be sold.
- Alcohol misuse can lead to unsafe or unacceptable sexual and/or violent behaviour, drink-driving and other alcohol-related harm. Excessive consumption of alcohol will not be an excuse to unacceptable behaviour, particularly behaviour that endangers others or breaches the law, this policy or any other policy of the club.

### **Committee Members, Members, Players and Officials**

- Must not compete, train, coach or officiate if affected by alcohol.
- Must not provide, encourage or allow people aged under 18 to consume alcohol.
- Must not participate in or encourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol (including drinking competitions).
- Must not pressure anyone to drink alcoholic beverages.
- Must not post images on social media of themselves or others drinking alcohol at Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football related activities.
- Must accept responsibility for own behaviour and take a responsible approach and use good judgment when alcohol is available.

## Functions

Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will arrange with function venue staff that:

- Intoxicated people are not permitted to enter the premises.
- Alcohol will not be served to any person who is intoxicated.
- Intoxicated people will be asked to leave the premises (after appropriate safe transport options are offered).
- Alcohol will not be served to persons aged under 18.
- Tap water is provided free of charge.
- Substantial food (e.g. more than nuts, chips and similar snacks) is available whenever alcohol is consumed.
- Where possible, alcohol will cease being served at least an hour before the designated time for close of the function. Non-alcoholic beverages will be made available at this time.

Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will not:

- Conduct functions where the caterer/venue requires a minimum amount of liquor sales or the liquor provider is paid by a percentage of sales
- Conduct 'all you can drink' functions
- Provide alcohol-only drink vouchers for functions
- Include alcohol in the price of tickets (or will limit 'free' drinks to a maximum of two).

Advertisements for functions will:

- Not overemphasise the availability of alcohol or refer to the amount of alcohol available
- Not encourage rapid drinking or excessive drinking
- Give equal reference to the availability of non-alcoholic drinks
- Display a clear start and finish time for the function.

## Safe Transport

The club recognises that driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal and hazardous to individuals and the wider community. Accordingly, the club implements a Safe Transport Policy that is reviewed regularly in conjunction with this Alcohol Management Policy. 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 or drugs.

## Trips

Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will monitor and ensure any trips strictly adhere to responsible behaviour and alcohol consumption in accordance with the principles of this policy and the aims of the club. Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will not actively promote or fundraise for player's end of season trips, thereby minimising the club's risk and liability if an alcohol-related incident occurs.

## Awards/Prizes

The club will avoid providing awards (e.g. at end of season presentations) and fundraising prizes that have an emphasis on/use alcohol as a reward.



## **Policy and Responsible Use of Alcohol Promotion**

- Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will promote the alcohol management policy regularly:
  - By putting a copy of the policy on the website and in member/player information
  - Via social media
  - Through periodic announcements to members at functions.
- Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will educate members and supporters about the alcohol policy and the benefits of having such a policy.
- Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will actively demonstrate its attitude relating to the responsible use of alcohol.
- Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will not advertise, promote or have alcohol served or consumed at junior events or activities.
- Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources.
- Hunter Western Hornets Touch Football will actively participate in the Australian Drug Foundation's *Good Sports* program with an ongoing priority to maintain Level 3 accreditation.

## **Non Compliance**

All committee members will enforce the alcohol management policy and any non-compliance will be handled 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 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 facilities or function.

## **Committee Policy Management**

The presence of committee members is essential to ensure compliance with this policy. At least two members who are RSA trained are required to be present at all club functions when alcohol is being served. Key responsibilities of the duty committee members are to:

- Meet visiting police, cooperate and assist with any inquiries
- Ensure compliance in respect of persons under 18 years of age on premises
- Ensure compliance with all sections of this policy in accordance with legal requirements and the *Good Sports* program.

## **Policy Review**

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