



GOOLWA CRICKET CLUB



SAFE CELEBRATIONS GUIDE.

HEALTH RISKS

Clubs are encouraged to support their members to stay healthy and safe at Club events such as “bonding” sessions, end of season trips, end of match celebrations, Club events, player social events many of which often involve alcohol use.

The short-term health effects of risky levels of alcohol consumption include

- nausea
- clumsiness
- blurred vision
- vomiting
- memory loss
- loss of consciousness
- in other cases – injuries that may stop you playing

Risky levels of alcohol consumption can lead to increased health risks for an individual, as well as the risk of damage to property, relationships, even team spirit. This can then lead to loss of respect in the community, or within our own Club and/or with other teams and Clubs in the Association

People who are intoxicated are also more likely to endanger themselves and others with their behaviour –drink-driving, becoming violent, becoming loud and obnoxious, and disrespecting women.

Reputation and legal risks

Incidents caused by risky levels of alcohol consumption can also damage a club’s reputation. That damage can easily spread throughout the entire association. The club could incur sanctions and fines and even attract negative media coverage.

All this can impact on funding from councils or sponsors. It can damage perceptions that the club is family-friendly, leading to a drop in membership.

The time spent by club officials repairing the damage is likely to be considerable.

What can clubs do?

Communication is key. By being part of the Good Sports program, we have an alcohol management policy in place. This policy, and the consequences of not adhering to it, must be clearly understood by all players, volunteers, members and club officials.

To reduce risks to individuals and organisations, sporting clubs should not endorse or support events that involve risky levels of alcohol consumption and should find other fundraising options than just through the bar.

A risk assessment before an event will identify likely hazards, the amount of damage they could cause, and indicate what precautions are needed to prevent incidents from happening.

Our Club will strive to adhere to the following processes.

1. Ensure our policy for staying safe while celebrating is well promoted and understood by everyone. Clearly explain what the club considers unacceptable behaviour:

- drunk /disorderly behaviour/ drink driving
- damage to property / violence and assault
- verbal abuse / any form of harassment
- anything that may bring the image of the club into disrepute
- anything against the law.

2. Provide a pre-event team talk around respectful behaviour and lower-risk alcohol consumption.

3. Make sure everyone understands the consequences of inappropriate behaviour.

4. Meet with organisers of all on-site events and discuss what is planned.

5. Comply with liquor license requirements. Preferably no one under 18 will be involved in an event where alcohol is served.

6. Encourage regular meals, snacks between meals and provide non-alcoholic drinks.

7. Watch out for players who might be injured, suffering from concussion or on medication, or who may have a reputation for overuse of alcohol. Encourage them not to drink alcohol.

8. Consider a buddy system, where participants agree not to drink and look after others, particularly younger members of the team.

9. Ensure people have safe transport home