

Gippsland FC Drug & Alcohol Policy



PURPOSE

Gippsland FC is committed to providing a safe, healthy, family friendly and successful sport environment. All members of the Club have a responsibility to ensure that they take reasonable care to protect their own health and safety and that of others whilst in this environment by not being affected by alcohol or other drugs to the extent that it impacts on their own or another person's recreational enjoyment or safety.

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Policy, Gippsland FC defines alcohol and drugs as follows:

- "Alcohol" refers to any beverage, containing an alcoholic content that temporarily impairs a person's physical or mental capacity.
- "Drugs" refers to a chemical substance, whether it is legal or illegal, which may have the ability to impair a person's physical or mental capacity. These can include non-prescribed drugs, for example, but not limited to, speed, heroin, amphetamines, LSD, crack, cocaine, ecstasy, marijuana, etc.
- "Member" refers to any playing or social member associated with Gippsland FC, whether financial (fee-paying) or not.

ILLICIT DRUGS AND THEIR EFFECTS

Amphetamines

Also known as speed, goey, whiz, crystal, meth, base, paste, ice, shabu.

Cannabis

Also known as marijuana, grass, pot, ganja, mull, hash, dope, yarndi, skunk, hydro.

Cocaine

Also known as coke and sometimes available as freebase or crack.

Ecstasy

Also known as E, pills.

Hallucinogens

Includes Magic Mushrooms and LSD (also known as trips, acid, tabs, wangers, microdots).

Heroin

Also known as hammer, H, shit, smack, horse, harry, white, scag, junk, slow, rock.

Steroids (Anabolic Androgenic Steroids)

Volatile Substances (Solvents, Inhalants)

Includes a wide range of different substances such as petrol, spray paints, some glues, laughing gas (nitrous oxide), butane and other chemicals.

PROCEDURES

The effects of intoxication and the regular use of or dependence on alcohol or other drugs are associated with impaired judgement and skills, reduced concentration, erratic behaviour, aggression and violence, absenteeism and increased accidents. These behaviours and activities may seriously affect member safety and ethical standards within Gippsland FC.

Members who have concerns about playing or associating with any other playing or social member due to possible alcohol or other drug use should consult with the President of Gippsland FC immediately.

All members of Gippsland FC are prohibited from selling, distributing, manufacturing, possessing or consuming drugs when on the premises of Gippsland FC or at any club function. Alcohol will not be consumed by a player whilst he/she is engaged in a game.

Playing members are prohibited from arriving to a match or returning to a match from any break under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

The right of members to consume alcohol is acknowledged, however it is inappropriate to do so at Gippsland FC as it places others at risk of harm and brings Gippsland FC and its 'family friendly' environment into disrepute. Therefore, Gippsland FC reserves the right to take action if a member is:

- affected by alcohol or other drugs, so as to endanger their own safety or the safety of any other person during the course of a match or club function;
- found in the possession of drugs or unauthorised drug use equipment on Gippsland FC premises; or
- affected by alcohol or other drugs, so that the member's performance is affected
- known to be acknowledging significant use or involvement in production of illegal drugs or alcohol via friendship groups, social media, playing groups or family.

Should these issues be brought to the attention any of the Gippsland FC Committee members or coaching staff, Gippsland FC may take the following action, enacted by any member of the Committee or coaching staff after appropriate and confidential discussion:

- Immediately approach the member to discuss the issue and its implications
- suspend the player/member from matches or club functions where appropriate until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the committee and coaching staff
- remove the member from club functions if they pose a risk to themselves or others.
- Immediately contact emergency services if there is suspicion of a drug overdose at any club function
- counsel the player internally regarding their use of alcohol or drugs
- refer the player to appropriate organisations to address the misuse or abuse of illicit substances;

Gippsland FC reserves the right to search its premises for illicit drugs and confiscate the substance in question.

MEDICALLY PRESCRIBED DRUGS

In circumstances where a club member is taking medically prescribed drugs to manage a specific condition that may interfere with their playing performance, they are required to notify their coach. The coach, in consultation with the player, may make adjustments to the match requirements of the player concerned.

CLUB FUNCTIONS

It is recognised that after match and weekend functions organised by the club might involve the consumption of alcohol. It is expected that club members consume alcohol responsibly at these times. Use of drugs at these functions is prohibited by the Club. Should it come to the attention of committee members that drugs are being consumed at these times, action will be taken as previously described.

Should players or members be significantly intoxicated due to alcohol use at club functions, Gippsland FC reserves the right to remove the member from any club function.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

In accordance with the Liquor Licensing Act and Victorian law, members of Gippsland FC are not permitted to drive a vehicle, whether their own or not, when that person has consumed alcohol or other drugs. Gippsland FC will accept no liability for any damage to a vehicle, injury to any person, or damage or injury to any third party, incurred while the driver of a vehicle is in breach of this Act or the law. All liabilities will rest with the driver concerned.

Approval Date:	01/10/2021	
Review Date:		
Version No:	1.0	
Vice-President:	Sign: P Boyes	Name: Peter Boyes
Secretary:	Sign: A Colantuono	Name: Alyson Colantuono