

**NORTHERN
FOOTBALL LEAGUE
INCORPORATED**



**SCHEDULE 9:
ALCOHOL AND NO SMOKING
MANAGEMENT POLICY**

**Adopted
December 2014**

NORTHERN FOOTBALL LEAGUE INCORPORATED
ALCOHOL AND NO SMOKING MANAGEMENT POLICY

One of the main goals of the Northern Football League is the promotion of health and well being through playing Australian Football and associated social/recreational activities. The Northern Football League respects the rights of individuals to make their own choice in relation to the smoking of cigarettes and other tobacco products and the consumption of alcohol based on the following points.

1. ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT

1.1 Senior Football

The Northern Football League acknowledges that Affiliated Clubs must go through the process of obtaining a liquor license for the sale of alcohol at venues. At senior matches Clubs are to abide by their liquor licensing laws, appropriate Codes of Behaviour, and acceptable community standards of behavior. Serving of alcohol in glass receptacles during any NFL match is prohibited.

1.2 Junior Football

The guidelines as detailed in the NFL By-Laws and pasted below are to be adhered too in relation to alcohol consumption at junior football matches:

“No alcohol is to be consumed or sold at any venue (including within licensed clubrooms) where junior matches are being staged until at least 30 minutes after the conclusion of the final match of the day. Clubs shall be responsible for the conduct of its members, supporters and followers. Breaches of this By Law will be considered serious and attract monetary fines and other penalties at discretion of the Board in accordance with Schedule 20.”

2. SMOKING

Whilst personal choice is acknowledged, tobacco use and/or exposure to tobacco smoke, as medically proven, can be harmful to a person’s health. It is therefore the policy of the Northern Football League that all indoor areas at venues operated by the League are designated as smoke free environments.

Our League does not permit persons officiating at matches to smoke on the playing arena at any time including quarter and three-quarter time intervals. This applies to coaches, team managers, runners, goal and boundary umpires, first aiders and water persons etc. Offending Clubs are liable to a fine in accordance with Schedule 20.

Smoking is not allowed at any League and Club indoor areas and persons breaching this policy will be asked to refrain and if necessary asked to leave the premises. Disciplinary measures including suspension, fines and dismissal will be taken against League members if they fail to reasonably comply with the policy requirements.

To assist the effectiveness of this policy, the following measures will be implemented:

- “No-Smoking” signs will be displayed prominently throughout venues, especially within change room areas, at entry points and food areas;
- All ashtrays will be removed from inside League and Club venues. Smokers will be directed to an outside area, where ash bins are available for their use;
- Include on all League and Club letters and newsletters wording, e.g. The Northern Football League operates and conducts ‘smoke free’ facilities and events;
- No tobacco products are to be sold at the canteen or bar.

3. RATIONALE

The Northern Football League recognises that passive smoking (inhaling second-hand smoke) is hazardous to health and that non-smokers should be protected from tobacco smoke. Passive smoking can lead to other serious illnesses such as bronchitis, lung cancer, cardiovascular disease, and chest illnesses in children. Accordingly the following policy has been adopted by Northern Football League to help protect people's health.

The Northern Football League acknowledges its leadership role and aims to be a good role model. The move to go Smoke Free also complements the Northern Football League's desire to create a healthy family friendly environment. The Northern Football League believes that such an environment and image will be advantageous in attracting new members and positively promoting our sport in the community.

Legislation and the legal duty of care also provide reasons to have a Smoke Free League. Under common law the Northern Football League has a legal duty of care to ensure that employees, volunteers, players and officials are not exposed to potentially harmful situations. The Occupational Health and Safety Act also stipulates that employees and working volunteers must have a safe environment to work in. Victorian Smoke Free dining legislation also states that enclosed dining areas must be Smoke Free.

4. WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE POLICY

This policy applies to all Northern Football League members, administrators, officials, coaches, players and visitors of the Northern Football League. This policy applies when these groups are representing the Northern Football League or attending any Northern Football League facilities, functions, or events.

5. TIMING

This policy is effective from April 2007.

6. FACILITIES

The following facilities and areas are to be designated Smoke Free:

- Administration and office areas;
- Social/club rooms at the Northern Football League's headquarters;
- All change rooms and toilet blocks at the Northern Football League's and affiliated Club's headquarters;
- Indoor spectator viewing areas at the Northern Football League's and affiliated Club's headquarters;
- Playing area at the Northern Football League's and affiliated Club's headquarters;
- All eating areas at the Northern Football League's and affiliated Club's headquarters;
- Tobacco products will not be sold at any of the facilities under the direct control of Northern Football League.

7. FUNCTIONS

All official Northern Football League functions will be 100% Smoke Free. Such functions include:

- Dinners;

- Fund-raising events;
- Prize giving's;
- Meetings;
- Social occasions;
- Any other event or function.

8. MEDIUMS

The following mediums will remind patrons about the Northern Football League's Smoke Free policy:

- Non-smoking signs;
- Invitations;
- Dinner menus;
- Announcements;
- Table signage;
- Function speeches;
- Association/league handbook;
- All association/league correspondence (letters, faxes, e-mails etc.);
- Ashtrays will be removed from function rooms where Northern Football League functions will be held;
- Cigarette butt bins will be provided outside to encourage smokers to smoke outside.

9. REPRESENTATIVES

The following Northern Football League representatives are to refrain from smoking while in uniform and/or while acting in an official capacity for the Northern Football League.

10. NON-COMPLIANCE STRATEGY

The following five step non-compliance strategy will be followed if anyone breaches the Northern Football League's Smoke Free policy:

1. Assume that the person is unaware of the Smoke Free policy.
2. A Northern Football League official will approach the person breaching the policy and politely ask them to refrain from smoking and remind them about the Smoke Free policy.
3. If the offence continues then the most senior official or most senior representative will verbally warn them again and hand over a formally written letter that outlines the Northern Football League's policy on smoking. The offending patron must also be made aware that if they do not stop smoking then they will be required to leave. The Northern Football League's letter will be signed off by the Northern Football League's management committee. This letter will be pre-written and kept ready for use at the Northern Football League's headquarters and at functions and events.
4. If the offender does continue to smoke, then they will be escorted out of the facility by staff and/or a senior *association/league* representative.

5. Under no circumstances should the Northern Football League's Smoke Free policy be breached, no matter who the offender is.

11. POLICY REVIEW

The policy will be reviewed yearly no later than 30 October.