



**LACROSSE  
VICTORIA**

*lacrossevictoria.com.au*

# Alcohol Management Policy

Adopted Nov 2022

Level 2, Sports House, 375 Albert Rd  
Albert Park, VIC 3206  
p 03 9682 3300  
f 03 9681 6749  
e [office@lacrossevictoria.com.au](mailto:office@lacrossevictoria.com.au)  
[lacrossevictoria.com.au](http://lacrossevictoria.com.au)  
ABN 31 876 640 323



## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to help Lacrosse Victoria take action to promote responsible drinking and prevent and manage problems associated with harmful alcohol consumption within Lacrosse. Sporting clubs and associations are a key setting in which problems associated with harmful alcohol consumption can be addressed. There is a cultural link between alcohol and sport. Implementing an alcohol management policy in our association is an important step in managing problems associated with harmful alcohol consumption.

## **POLICY COVERAGE**

Alcohol management is a shared responsibility. This policy covers all Lacrosse Victoria areas of authority and applies to everyone involved in the activities of Lacrosse Victoria. This includes committee and board members, staff, volunteers, players, coaches, officials, administrators, parents and spectators.

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

Lacrosse Victoria seeks to promote, encourage and support strategies to minimise harm from alcohol use in the interests of the health and safety of those participating in our sport.

Lacrosse Victoria supports the responsible consumption of alcohol and takes seriously any inappropriate behaviour that results from excessive drinking.

## **ASSOCIATION RESPONSIBILITIES**

Lacrosse Victoria will take action to fulfil its responsibilities:

- Pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources.
- Educate staff and members about our alcohol policy and the impact of alcohol on health and safety.
- Actively demonstrate our attitude to responsible use of alcohol.
- Provide alcohol-free social events for young people and families.
- Not endorse or support end-of-season trips or celebrations that involve excessive consumption of alcohol.
- Meet liquor licensing requirements and have regard to the safety and wellbeing of people if the association does sell, serve or supply alcohol. Depending on the licence we hold (e.g. a limited or full licence):
  - A Lacrosse Victoria representative/staff will be present at Lacrosse Victoria events where alcohol is served.

- Posters about responsible drinking and standard drinks measures will be prominently displayed.
- Only trained servers will be permitted to serve alcohol. They are not permitted to drink while serving alcohol. A person under the age of 18 will not be permitted to be behind the bar under any circumstances.
- People under 18 years will not knowingly be served alcohol and we will ask for photo ID if we are unsure.
- Excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol will not be encouraged.
- Alcohol will not be served to people who are intoxicated.
- Efforts will be made to help people who are intoxicated to get home safely (e.g. calling a taxi for them).
- A selection of low-cost, low-alcohol and alcohol-free drinks (such as water, sparkling water, low-joule soft drinks and juices) will be provided at the bar and social functions.
- A range of snacks and meals will be available when alcohol is served.

## **INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

All members and sporting personnel involved with or attending Lacrosse Victoria activities and functions are required to comply with the following:

- Drink and behave responsibly at all Lacrosse Victoria functions, events and away trips.
- Do not supply alcohol to team members if they are under 18 years of age.
- Do not drink alcohol if you are under 18 years at Lacrosse Victoria functions or matches or while away on trips.
- Do not bring alcohol or drink alcohol while at games (e.g. as a spectator, in your role as a coach, as an official or as a volunteer).
- Do not encourage others to drink alcohol excessively.
- Do not encourage or take part in team-bonding activities that involve alcohol.
- Do not spike another person's drink.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE**

The Lacrosse Victoria will take action for breaches of behaviour and responsibilities outlined in this policy:

- If members or sporting personnel become drunk at Lacrosse Victoria or Lacrosse Victoria sanctioned events, including social functions, they will be asked to leave. Ongoing occurrences of intoxication will be in breach of codes of conduct and can result in disciplinary action (e.g. suspension or termination of membership or position).
- Spiking of drinks is a criminal offence that can be reported by victims to the police and lead to serious police charges being laid against the offender/s. Separate action can be taken as a breach of our member protection policy to provide for the protection, safety and welfare of members.
- Serving alcohol to a minor is a criminal offence that can be reported by victims and their parents to the police and the relevant liquor licensing authority and can lead to heavy fines. Separate action can be taken as a breach of our member protection policy to provide for the protection, safety and welfare of children.
- Any person under the age of 18 years found to consume alcohol while at Lacrosse Victoria or Lacrosse Victoria sanctioned function, competition or away trip may be suspended for the remainder of the competition/tournament. Where a person under the age of 18 is found to have consumed alcohol, parents shall be advised and are responsible for getting their son/daughter home at their own expense.
- Any member or sporting personnel found to have behaved inappropriately because of over-consumption of alcohol (e.g. sexual harassment, verbal abuse, physical assault, neglect of a child) will face disciplinary action as outlined in our member protection policy or covered by our codes of conduct.

## **RELATED POLICIES**

This alcohol management policy should be read in conjunction with the Lacrosse Victoria:

- Member Protection Policy
- Code of Conduct

## **REVIEW, ADDITIONS OR AMENDMENTS**

This policy will be regularly evaluated and revised through consultation to maintain continuous improvement in our governance, structure, programs, services and facilities. In addition to the annual review of this policy, recommendations for changes to the policy may be submitted to the Board for consideration at any time. In the event that changes are accepted, the policy will be updated, dated and circulated to all stakeholders via the website and other methods deemed appropriate.

**Adopted by the board:** *{date}*

**Reviewed and updated:** *{date}*

**Scheduled review:** *{date}*

More information

Related Everyone Wins resources

Respectful behaviour – fact sheet

Policy development – fact sheet

Member protection information officers – fact sheet

Managing conflict – fact sheet

Additional resources

References

Developed in collaboration

Collaboration leader: VicHealth