**ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT POLICY   
GERALDTON NETBALL ASSOCIATION**

1. **PURPOSE**

This policy outlines our procedures for a balanced and responsible approach to the supply, consumption and promotion of alcohol at association training, games, special events, functions and other association-related activities. It represents our association’s commitment to its members, volunteers and visitors, and acknowledges the role that sporting associations play in building strong and healthy communities.

This policy will help to ensure our association:

* Meets its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members, volunteers and visitors who attend any association training, games, special events, functions and other activities where alcohol may be consumed.
* Upholds the reputation of our association, our sponsors and our partners.
* Understands the risks associated with alcohol misuse and our role in minimising this risk.

1. **RATIONALE**

While Geraldton Netball Association does not sell alcohol, we acknowledge that alcohol may be consumed at association related events and activities including meetings, after training or games, end of season/presentation functions, sponsors’ functions, trivia nights and other fundraising events. Our association may also hold functions at licensed venues .

Accordingly, the following requirements will apply to all members, volunteers and visitors where alcohol is consumed.

1. **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

Alcohol misuse can lead to risk taking, unsafe, unacceptable and/or illegal behaviour. Excessive consumption of alcohol will not be an excuse for unacceptable behaviour, particularly behaviour that endangers others or breaches the law, this policy or any other policy of our association.

A risk management approach will be taken in planning events and activities involving the supply or consumption of alcohol. Such events and activities will be conducted and managed in a manner consistent with liquor licensing legislation and this policy.

In addition, our association will promote additional services that are available to members to deal with alcohol related issues if they arise. Such avenues include encouraging the association member to:

* Contact a local community health provider eg your local GP.
* Visit the Alcohol & Drug Foundation’s ‘Help & Support’ section on the website <http://adf.org.au/help-support/>.

1. **CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS**

Whilst engaging in association activitiesmembers, volunteers and visitors:

* Will accept responsibility for their own behaviour, use good judgment and take a responsible approach when alcohol is available.
* Will encourage and assist others to use good judgment when alcohol is available.
* Will not compete, train, coach or officiate if affected by alcohol.
* Will not provide, encourage or allow people aged under 18 years to consume alcohol.
* Will not participate, pressure anyone or encourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol (including drinking competitions).
* Will not provide alcohol only as an award to a player or official for any reason.
* Will not post images on social media of themselves or others drinking alcohol irresponsibly at association-related activities.

1. **INTOXICATED PEOPLE**

For the purposes of this policy, a person is defined as being in a state of intoxication if his or her speech, balance, co-ordination or behaviour is noticeably affected and there are reasonable grounds for believing that this is the result of the consumption of alcohol.

* Intoxicated people will not be permitted to enter our association premises.
* If a person becomes intoxicated (and is not putting other people at risk with their behaviour) the person will be provided with water and options for safe transport home, where available.
* If a person becomes intoxicated (and is putting other people at risk due to their behaviour) the person will be asked to leave our association premises immediately and offered safe transport options, where available. Police may also be contacted to remove the person, if required.

**5.1 Underage Drinking**

* Alcohol will not be provided to persons aged under 18 years.
* Our association will discourage the drinking of alcohol in the association change-rooms to reduce the risk of minors being served alcohol illegally.

**5.2 Availability of Non-Alcoholic and Low Alcohol Drinks**

Our association recognises that not all association members may drink alcohol. Our association actively encourages venues we use for association activities and functions to have:

* Non-alcoholic and low alcohol drinks available and to provide drinking water free of charge (where available).
* Non-alcoholic drinks clearly visible and adequate in variety and supply.

1. **FUNCTIONS**

Our association will encourage safe celebrations and events by:

* Not conducting functions where a minimum amount of liquor sales is required.
* Not promoting or hosting ‘all you can drink’ functions.
* Not providing alcohol-only drink vouchers for functions.
* **[Not including alcohol in the price of function tickets]** or **[Limiting the number of drinks included in the price of function tickets to a maximum of four, as recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council.]**

Advertisements for functions will promote safe celebrations by:

* Not overemphasising the availability of alcohol or referring to the amount of alcohol available.
* Not encouraging rapid drinking or excessive drinking.
* Giving equal reference to the availability of non-alcoholic drinks.
* Displaying a clear start and finish time for the function.
* Including a safe transport message, where possible and relevant.

1. **SAFE TRANSPORT**

Our association recognises that driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is hazardous to individuals and the wider community. We ask that all attendees at our functions plan their transport requirements to ensure they get home safely and avoid driving under the influence of alcohol.

1. **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

Our association recognises that:

* Drink driving is one of the main causes of road deaths in Australia.
* Driving when over the legal blood alcohol limit is illegal and hazardous to individuals and the wider community.
* Mixing drugs (including prescription medication) with other drugs or alcohol can seriously affect the ability to drive safely.

1. **TRANSPORT FOR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES**

This safe transport policy applies for all activities undertaken by the association that involve the serving and/or consumption of alcohol.

Our association will:

* + Promote strategies that encourage members to plan how they’ll get home safely before they go out e.g. pre-arranged transport.
  + Print safe transport messages on relevant association activity and event invitations or flyers.
  + Ensure the MC for events or association committee members advise attendees that the association is a Good Sports accredited association, communicate the safe transport options and regularly remind attendees to behave responsibly around alcohol.
  + Ensure telephone calls can be made free of charge to call a sober person to provide transport from the association or venue.

Where available, our association will also consider:

* + Use of a association or community bus (such as council, school or tourist buses) and:
    - The bus or transport provided will be an alcohol-free zone (i.e. no alcohol will be permitted on the bus).
    - The bus will not be used to transport members between licensed venues.
    - People who have consumed alcohol can get home safely from the bus drop off point
  + Use a range of taxi or ride share strategies such as:
    - Free telephone calls to arrange a taxi to provide transport from the association or venue.
    - The association committee will pre-order taxis to arrive at a association or venue at the conclusion of a association event or function.
    - Encourage association members to utilise a ride share service.

**CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS**

Whilst engaging in association activities, members, volunteers and visitors will:

* Accept responsibility for their own behaviour, use good judgment and take a responsible approach towards alcohol consumption.
* Encourage and assist others to use good judgment regarding alcohol consumption.
  + Make alternative transport arrangements to get to and from the activity safely.
  + Share a taxi or ride share (where available) with friends.
  + Consider arranging overnight accommodation.

1. **ASSOCIATION TRIPS**

Our association will monitor and ensure any association trips, particularly end of season player trips, strictly adhere to responsible behaviour and responsible alcohol consumption in accordance with the principles of this policy and the values of our association.

1. **AWARDS/PRIZES**

Our association will avoid providing [awards](http://goodsports.com.au/resources/alternatives-alcohol-prizes/) (e.g. at end of season presentations) and fundraising prizes that have an emphasis on alcohol as a reward.

1. **PROMOTING THIS POLICY AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL**

Our association will:

* Educate members, volunteers and visitors about our policy and the benefits of having such a policy.
* Ensure this policy is easily accessible and will promote it via [**our website, newsletters, social media, announcements during events and functions**].
* Not advertise, promote or have alcohol served or consumed at junior events or activities.
* Actively demonstrate our attitude relating to the responsible use of alcohol and promote positive messages through our social media platforms.
* Pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources.
* Actively participate in the Alcohol and Drug Foundation’s *Good Sports* program with an ongoing priority to [**achieve/maintain**] the highest Good Sports accreditation.

**NON-COMPLIANCE**

Association committee members will uphold this policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

* Association members and/or guests should notify the committee of any breaches of this Policy (for example, individuals turning up intoxicated or bringing their own alcohol to a association activity).
* 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.

1. **POLICY REVIEW**

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

**SIGNATURES:**

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| Signed: | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Signed: | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | Association President |  | Association Secretary |
| Date: | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Date: | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Next policy review date is **[insert day/month/year]**

**ENQUIRIES REGARDING OUR POLICY:**

CONTACT:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

Visit: [www.goodsports.com.au](http://www.goodsports.com.au) for information regarding the Good Sports program.