

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Rodney District Sports & Community Association (RDSCA) and their member clubs are committed to providing a safe, healthy, family friendly and successful sport and community environment. All members of the Association 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, RDSCA 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.
- "Member" refers to any playing or social member associated with the Association or a member club, whether financial (fee-paying) or not.

ILLICIT DRUGS AND THEIR EFFECTS

- Amphetamines
- Cannabis
- Cocaine
- Ecstasy
- Hallucinogens
- Heroin
- Steroids (Anabolic Androgenic Steroids)
- Volatile Substances (Solvents, Inhalants)

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 behavior, aggression and violence, absenteeism and increased accidents. These behaviors and activities may seriously affect member safety and ethical standards within RDSCA, its member clubs and the surrounding community.

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 Association President or applicable member club manager immediately.

All members of RDSCA are prohibited from selling, distributing, manufacturing, possessing or consuming drugs when in the vicinity of RDSCA sports activity, or at any Association function. Alcohol will not be consumed by a player whilst they are 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 or take other drugs socially is acknowledged, however they must not take any drugs in the vicinity of the Association, and must ensure that any consumption of alcohol where allowed does not place others at risk of harm or bring RDSCA, its member clubs and it's 'family friendly' environment into disrepute. Therefore, RDSCA 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 in the during the course of a match or social club function;
- found in the possession of drugs or unauthorised drug use equipment in the vicinity of RDSCA sports activities; 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 RDSCA Management Committee members or coaching staff, RDSCA 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 it's implications
- suspend the player/member from matches or Association/club functions where appropriate until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the committee and coaching staff
- remove the member from Association/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 Association/club function
- counsel the member/player internally regarding their use of alcohol or drugs
- refer the member/player to appropriate organisations to address the misuse or abuse of illicit substances;

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

MEDICALLY PRESCRIBED DRUGS

In circumstances where a player 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 RDSCA or its member clubs may involve the consumption of alcohol. It is expected that Association members consume alcohol responsibly at these times. Use of drugs at these functions is prohibited by the Association. 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 Association club functions, RDSCA reserves the right to refuse the service of alcohol in accordance with the Liquor Licensing Act (where such Licence is in use).

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

In accordance with the Liquor Licensing Act and New Zealand law, members of RDSCA are not permitted to drive a vehicle, whether their own or not, when that person has consumed alcohol above the prescribed limits, or other drugs. RDSCA 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.