

VERMONT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT POLICY



Purpose

This policy aims to provide a basis for the responsible management of alcohol by the Vermont Junior Football Club (VJFC).

The club recognises the importance in holding a liquor license in the value it adds to the club, enabling it to generate income and hold social functions, but in doing so the club also accepts the responsibilities and expectations of the community in strictly adhering to the liquor licensing laws.

Serving Alcohol

Alcohol will be served according to the requirements of the club's liquor licence and in accordance with the safety and wellbeing of patrons.

- The club will maintain a current liquor licence
- The liquor licence will be displayed at the bar
- Persons under the age of 18 years are not permitted to serve alcohol
- Only Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) trained members/bar staff will be permitted to serve alcohol
- The club will discourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol
- Alcoholic drinks will be served in standard drink measures
- The club will display posters on liquor license regulations and education
- Alcohol will not be available for sale or allowed to be consumed during junior competition, including at additional and special competitions
- Alcohol will never be present in the change rooms
- Junior players are not permitted to drink alcohol in the club facilities or at club events or presentations

Promoting the responsible use of alcohol

- The club will actively demonstrate its attitude relating to the responsible use of alcohol
- The club will not advertise, promote or serve alcohol at junior events or activities
- The club will educate club members and supporters about the alcohol policy
- The club will pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources
- Alcohol advertising will only appear at the bar
- The club will not promote alcohol through 'cheap drink' strategies, such as happy hour

VERMONT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT POLICY



Intoxicated patrons

- Alcohol will not be served to any person who is intoxicated
- Servers will follow procedures, provided in their training, for dealing with and refusing alcohol to intoxicated patrons
- Intoxicated patrons will be asked to leave the club
- Intoxicated persons will be refused entry into the club

Underage drinking

- Alcohol will not be served to persons under the age of 18 years
- Staff will request proof of age, where appropriate
- Only photographic ID will be accepted

Availability of Non-Alcoholic and Low Alcohol Drinks

Our club recognises that not all club members may drink alcohol and alcohol is not the only revenue stream available. Our club actively encourages the sale of alternative products to that of alcohol and will ensure that:

- Water is provided free of charge (where available)
- At least four non-alcoholic drinks and one low-alcoholic drink option are always available and priced at least 10% cheaper than the cheapest full strength drink. Healthy drink options will be provided, where possible
- Non-alcoholic drinks are clearly visible and adequate in variety and supply

Safe Transport

Our club 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 arrive home safely and prevent driving under the influence of alcohol. We will ensure that:

- Bar staff shall encourage members and visitors to make alternate safe transport arrangements if they are considered to be intoxicated or exceed .05 blood alcohol concentration
- Telephone calls will be made free of charge to arrange a taxi or other transport
- Contact telephone numbers for taxi services will be displayed at the bar
- Promote low alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks to consumers

VERMONT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT POLICY



Those attending club activities where they are planning on drinking alcohol are encouraged to:

- Make alternative transport arrangements to get to and from the activity safely
- Plan ahead and arrange overnight accommodation.
- Share a taxi (where available) with friends
- Catch public transport (where available)
- Ride with a driver who hasn't been drinking alcohol or taking drugs

Fundraising, Functions and Prizes

- Promotions such as drink promotions, drinking competitions and all-inclusive cover charges should not be conducted on club premises
- The club will not promote or provide alcohol or drink vouchers for player awards
- Prizes for raffles and fundraising will not have an alcohol focus
- The club will use food or canteen awards rather than alcohol as prizes for player performance

Food

- The club will wherever possible actively promote and sell food whenever alcohol is available.

Bar Management

- A list of all RSA trained club members will be displayed near the bar. The list will also highlight RSA trained committee members.
- Non and low alcoholic alternative drinks will be available at all times.
- Tap water will be provided free of charge from the bar.
- An incident register will be maintained to record any incidents that may occur in relation to compliance with this policy and the operation of the social rooms bar.
- Bar staff will not be permitted to drink alcohol while serving behind the bar.

Committee Responsibilities

The presence of committee members is essential to ensure the operation of the bar and policy compliance. At least two duty committee members who are RSA trained are required to be present at all club functions when the bar is open. Key responsibilities of the duty committee members are to:

- Meet visiting police, cooperate and assist with any inquiries.
- Ensure the admission of members and guests and completion of the visitor's book.
- Compliance in respect of persons under 18 years of age on premises.
- Ensuring intoxicated people are refused service and are asked to leave the premises.

VERMONT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT POLICY



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- Ensuring strict compliance with the club policy in accordance with the key provisions of the Liquor Licence.
 - Recording any incidents in the incident register.

Non-compliance

All club committee members will enforce the alcohol management policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

- Explanation of the club 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 club facilities or function.

Promoting the “Alcohol Management Policy”

The club will promote the alcohol management policy regularly by:

- Distributing a copy to all club members.
- Displaying a copy of the policy in the club social rooms.
- Periodic announcements to members at functions.

The club recognises the importance of educating club members, particularly players in the benefits of implementing an alcohol management policy and will endeavour to provide information to assist this process.