



# Golden Grove Football Club

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## Drug Policy

GGFC strictly prohibits selling or distribution of any drugs by any club member or visitor within the club's jurisdiction. Prescribed drugs are only to be used with doctors' permission (see 'Sanctioned Drug Use'). Use of illicit drugs is strictly prohibited and will likely result in sanctions (see 'Sanctions') decided on by the clubs committee. This policy reflects our club's commitment of the health, safety and wellbeing of all persons associated with the club and any club activities.

### Sanctioned Drug Use

Players who require prescribed drugs for a chronic condition or for an extended period within GGFC jurisdiction, must be able to provide written proof (this will not be stored anywhere) from a relevant medical professional. It is the players responsibility to make all relevant parties aware, for example trainers/coaching staff, of the medication being consumed. Consumption or administration for junior players will be provided by the caregiver / parent within GGFC jurisdiction.

### Unsanctioned Drug Use

What is an illegal drug?

A substance that is not permitted to be taken or used according to state or national laws such as cannabis (marijuana), amphetamines (speed and "ice"), ecstasy, cocaine, heroin and a range of new psycho-active substances known as synthetic drugs. This policy does not apply to pharmaceutical drugs or performance enhancing drugs (unless they are captured in the above definition).

## 1. PURPOSE

This Policy outlines our commitment to ensuring a safe, drug free environment at all times. It represents our Club's commitment to its members, volunteers and visitors, acknowledging the role that sporting clubs and associations play in building strong, healthy and safe communities.

This Policy will allow our Club to:

- Make available appropriate resources to support education and understanding of prescribed drug abuse and illicit drug use.
- Comply with all legal and regulatory requirements surrounding prescribed and illicit drug use/sale.
- Uphold the reputation of our Club as being a safe environment.



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## 2. RATIONALE

To ensure our club is a safe and drug free environment, **Golden Grove Football Club (“Club”)** has an ongoing commitment to:

- Notify police of any instances of illegal drugs being distributed or sold on our club’s premises.
- Fully cooperate with the authorities and any investigation being conducted
- All contact with the media related to a drug-related allegation or incident within its jurisdiction will be managed by the club’s official spokesperson.
- Refer to Media management policy.

## 3. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Our Club recognises that the management of health and safety in the workplace is a joint responsibility and expects every employee, volunteer or member to take personal responsibility for their own health and safety, and the health and safety of their fellow volunteers.

If illegal drugs are being distributed or sold on our club’s premises by a member or visitor of any age, it will be reported to the police. If illegal drugs are found within our club’s jurisdiction the police will be notified. Names of all parties involved will be passed on to the authorities and the club will fully cooperate with any investigation. Any members involved will have their membership suspended while under investigation.

Should a member be found to be using or affected by illegal drugs under the club’s jurisdiction, GGFC will ensure that the safety and well being of the individual as the first priority. GGFC would:

- Seek out medical assistance, if required.
- If required, contact next of kin.
- If the individual(s) concerned is/are under 18, their parent or guardian would be informed immediately of the incident and the penalties to be imposed, unless informing the parent or guardian would put the individual at risk of greater harm.
- Ensure the individual is safely transported to their home.

## 4. PROMOTING THIS POLICY

Our Club will promote this Policy regularly by:

- Placing this Policy on the GGFC website.
- Promoting positive messages through the Club’s social media.

## 5. NON-COMPLIANCE

All Club Committee members will uphold this Policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

- Club members and/or guests should notify the Committee of any breaches of this Policy.



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- Those accused will be suspended until a full investigation is completed, part of which will be required to attend a hearing run by the executive committee
- Any penalty will be decided based on the circumstances, maximum penalty being banned from the club and any events sanctioned by the club for life.
- Where applicable, the individual(s) may be referred to a local drug treatment service.
- The club may appoint a senior person to act as a mentor to the suspended individual(s) for a nominated period of time and to assist them to reintegrate with the club.
- The Committee will investigate any potential non-compliance, and take any reasonable action to remedy, including education and awareness as appropriate.
- 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 if they are putting either their own safety, or the safety of others, at risk.

## 6. POLICY REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to Club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Approval Date	February 2024
Review Date	February 2025
Responsible Officer	Club Secretary