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# ABERFELDIE SPORTS CLUB SMOKEFREE POLICY

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January 2000. Last updated January 2014 with new amendment (see below)

## Rationale

The *Aberfeldie Sports Club* has recognised that passive smoking (inhaling second-hand smoke) is hazardous to health and that non-smokers should be protected from tobacco smoke. Passive smoking can lead to other serious illnesses such as bronchitis, lung cancer, cardiovascular disease, and chest illnesses in children. Accordingly the following policy has been developed by *Aberfeldie Sports Club* to help protect people's health.

The move to go Smoke Free also complements the *Aberfeldie Sports Club's* desire to create a healthy family friendly environment. We believe that such an environment and image will be advantageous in attracting new members and positively promoting the club within the local community.

Legislation and the legal duty of care also provide reasons to have a SmokeFree club. Under common law the *Aberfeldie Sports Club* has a legal duty of care to ensure that staff members, volunteers, coaches, players and officials are not exposed to potentially harmful situations. The Occupational Health and Safety Act also stipulates that employees and working volunteers must have a safe environment to work in. Victorian SmokeFree dining legislation also states that enclosed dining areas must be SmokeFree.

## Who is affected by the Policy

This policy applies to all members, administrators, officials, coaches, players and visitors of the *Aberfeldie Sports Club*.

## Timing

**This policy is effective from 1 January 2000**

## Designated SmokeFree Areas

The *Aberfeldie Sports Club* designates that the following areas to be SmokeFree:

- Club and social rooms
- Administration and office areas
- Player change rooms
- Toilet blocks
- Indoor spectator viewing areas
- Playing areas
- Eating areas
- Grandstands and spectator viewing areas
- Near entries and exits of buildings, facilities, and the ground

## **Behavioural Expectations**

The *Aberfeldie Sports Club* recognises that role modelling can have a significant impact upon the junior members of the club. Hence, the following individuals and groups will refrain from smoking while they are acting in an official capacity for the club or while in club uniform:

- Coaches (when coaching or representing the club)
- Trainers (when training players)
- Officials (when officiating for the club)
- Volunteers (when working for the club)
- Players (when in uniform and representing the club)

Coaches and trainers will also speak to junior players about the effects of smoking on performance.

## **Promotion of the Policy**

The following mediums will remind patrons about the *Aberfeldie Sports Club* 's SmokeFree policy:

- Non-smoking signs
- Club handbook
- Advertising and promotional resources (eg brochures, newspaper ads etc)
- Club correspondence (letters, faxes, e-mails etc)
- Announcements
- Table signage
- Function speeches
- Signage

Ashtrays will be removed from the clubrooms to discourage smoking. Cigarette butt bins will be provided outside to encourage smokers to smoke outside.

## **Non-Compliance Strategy**

The following five step non-compliance strategy will be followed if anyone breaches the *Aberfeldie Sports Club* 's SmokeFree policy.

1. Assume that the person is unaware of the SmokeFree policy.
2. A staff member or club representative will approach the person breaching the policy and politely ask them to refrain from smoking and remind them about the SmokeFree policy.
3. If the offence continues, then the most senior staff member or most senior club representative will verbally warn them again and hand over a formally written letter that outlines the club's policy on smoking. The offending patron must also be made aware that if they don't stop smoking then they will be required to leave the club's facility. The club's management committee will sign-off on the letter. This letter will be pre-written and kept both behind the bar and at the ground so that copies are readily available.
4. If the offence does continue then the patron will be escorted out of the facility by staff and/or a senior club representative.
5. Under no circumstances should our SmokeFree policy be breached: No matter who the offender is.

**Amendments to policy – January 2014:  
Outdoor Ban on Smoking at Sporting Venues during  
underage sporting events.**

*The State Government has passed legislation banning smoking in outdoor public areas where children under 18 are likely to be. This includes sporting venues during organised underage sporting events, including training. This will be effective from 1 April 2014.*

Essentially, smoking is banned within 10 metres of an outdoor public sporting venue, and this does include seating areas. It is important to note that as our clubrooms and veranda area falls within the 10m exclusion area, the smoking laws will now apply to these areas as well.

**Policy Review**

The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. This will ensure that the policy remains current and practical.

Original Review undertaken on 1 April 2000

*Policy revised and updated 22 January 2014 - Next review due 1 February 2015*