

NATIONAL BINGE DRINKING STRATEGY

CLUB CHAMPIONS PROGRAM

NATIONAL ALCOHOL CODE OF CONDUCT

JANUARY 2009

Australian Rugby Union LTD - Alcohol Code of Conduct

PRINCIPLES

This Code of Conduct aims to encourage and promote responsible attitudes and practices to alcohol through leadership and support. Sporting organisations, and individuals covered by this Code of Conduct have a role to play to help promote responsible drinking in society.

Australian Rugby Union LTD (ARU) is committed to conducting its activities in a manner that encourages responsible service and consumption of alcohol.

ARU accepts that it occupies a community leadership position in setting standards for a wide range of social and sporting behaviours.

Establishing benchmarks for responsible alcohol consumption and reducing the harm associated with excessive alcohol consumption is in the interests of Rugby Union at all levels and the wider community.

ARU believes that all people involved in its activities, whether or not in the public arena, should be treated with dignity and respect.

ARU appreciates that both ARU and individuals have responsibilities to give effect to responsible service and consumption of alcohol and will support and promote the principles of this Code.

Organisation Responsibilities

ARU will play its part by:

- not allowing individuals to participate in any sporting activities expressly sanctioned by ARU if they are consuming alcohol or under the influence of alcohol;
- not encouraging the promotion or service of alcohol in and around competition areas at underage events expressly sanctioned by the ARU;
- using its best endeavours to ensure that food and low alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks are available at any activity held or expressly sanctioned by ARU where alcohol will be served;
- encouraging responsible alcohol practices as well as being mutually supportive of individuals covered by this code of conduct, including providing support for individuals seeking assistance on alcohol related matters;

- ensuring that, where alcohol products are used as prizes/rewards, they are used in a responsible and appropriate manner; and
- complying with all relevant liquor licensing laws regarding the responsible service of alcohol.

Individual Responsibilities

ARU expects that individuals covered by this Code and undertaking activities associated with Rugby Union shall at all times where there is alcohol usage:

- behave in a dignified and professional manner that promotes and upholds standards of integrity, dignity and professionalism;
- act as role models for their club/team and Rugby Union;
- not put themselves, club/team mates nor the general public at risk of serious physical and social harms;
- accept that they are responsible and accountable for the choices they make and the consequences of these choices;
- assist their club/team mates and others covered by the Code of Conduct if they have had too much to drink; and
- take reasonable action to both prevent alcohol problems and address any alcohol-related issues as they emerge.

Who does this Code apply to?

The Code applies to following individuals whether in a paid or voluntary capacity:

- registered players of ARU participating in teams or competitions conducted by or on behalf of ARU;
- accredited coaches and assistant coaches of teams organised by or on behalf of ARU;
- support personnel with whom the ARU has a formal relationship;
- registered umpires, referees and other officials of ARU;
- office bearers or other officials of ARU.

Further, ARU will encourage others who have an association with the ARU, such as members and affiliates, to support the principles of the code of conduct.