



# Caroline Springs Lakers Drug and Alcohol Policy

## Policy Statement

The Caroline Springs Lakers are committed to providing a safe, healthy, family friendly and successful sport environment. All members of the Lakers 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, the Caroline Springs Lakers 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. These can include non-prescribed drugs, for example, but not limited to, speed, heroin, amphetamines, LSD, crack, cocaine, ecstasy, marijuana, and volatile substances such as solvents or inhalants.
- "Member" refers to any playing, social member, parent or relative of players, coaches and officials associated with the Caroline Springs Lakers, whether financial (fee-paying) or not.

## 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 behaviour, aggression and violence, absenteeism and increased accidents. These behaviours and activities may seriously affect member safety as well as breach the Code of Conduct standards within the Caroline Springs Lakers.

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 a member of the Caroline Springs Lakers Executive Team.

All members of the Caroline Springs Lakers are prohibited from selling, distributing, manufacturing, possessing or consuming illicit drugs when on, or around, home or away club premises or while at any official or unofficial club 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 illicit drugs.

The right of members to choose to use illicit drugs socially or in the privacy of their own home is acknowledged, however it is inappropriate and unacceptable to do so at the Caroline Springs Lakers, as it places others at risk of harm and brings the Club and its members into disrepute. Therefore, the Club 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 illicit drugs or unauthorised drug use equipment on Club premises; 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 Caroline Springs Lakers Committee members or coaching staff, the Caroline Springs Lakers 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 its implications
- Remove the player/member from matches or club functions where appropriate until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the committee and coaching staff
- Remove the player/member from 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 club function
- Counsel the player/member internally regarding their use of alcohol or drugs
- Refer the player/member to appropriate organisations to address the misuse or abuse of illicit substances;

The Caroline Springs Lakers reserve the right to search its premises for illicit drugs and confiscate the substance in question.

### **Medically Prescribed Drugs**

In circumstances where a member 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 and members of the Executive, may make adjustments to the match requirements of the player concerned.

### **Club Functions**

It is recognised that after a match and functions organised by the Club may involve the consumption of alcohol. It is expected that all club members consume alcohol responsibly at these times. Use of illicit drugs whilst on Caroline Springs Lakers premises and at Caroline Springs Lakers official and non-official functions is strictly prohibited by the Club. 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 whilst on Caroline Springs Lakers premises and at official and non-official Club functions, the Caroline Springs Lakers reserves the right, and holds the responsibility, to refuse the service of alcohol in accordance with the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*.

### **Consequences**

Any player/member who is in breach of this policy, will be referred to the Executive Committee management under the Caroline Springs Lakers Disciplinary Policy