

Batemans Bay Seahawks Australian Football Club

PO Box 94 Batemans Bay NSW 2536
Email – admin@batemansbayseahawks.com.au
ABN – 89 603 829 931



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ILLEGAL DRUG POLICY 2025

The Batemans Bay Seahawks Australian Football Club understands and accepts it has a duty of care to provide a safe and healthy environment, with responsible serving of alcohol and free of illegal drugs. This policy reflects a commitment by the club to the health, safety and welfare of all its members.

This policy has been approved by the Committee of Management of BBAFC at its meeting of February 2025.

The Batemans Bay Seahawks Australian Football Club is committed to :

- Encouraging and assisting members to realise their full potential within an environment that actively promotes their health, safety and well-being.
- Preventing alcohol and other drug related harm to individuals, property and the reputation of the football club.
- Ensuring a supportive and inclusive environment for all members.
- Providing support to members who wish to address their patterns of alcohol and/or illegal drug use.
- Meeting legal requirements in relation to alcohol and illegal drugs.
- Encouraging moderation and a responsible attitude to the consumption of alcohol.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure club members understand the club's position regarding illegal drugs and explain how the club will respond to a drug related incident within its jurisdiction.

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Application

This policy applies to all members, employees, volunteers, supporters and visitors of the Batemans Bay Seahawks. Members and employees should ensure they do not attend any Club Functions or Club Sponsors if adversely affected by illegal drugs and/or alcohol.

DEFINITIONS

Illegal Drugs

Currently there are two distinct but related illegal drug issues confronting sporting clubs:

- Performance enhancing drugs
- Illegal drugs used for social purposes (e.g at parties, raves, home, at venues etc).

These two categories are not mutually exclusive. Some illegal drugs used for social purposes (such as amphetamines e.g speed) maybe used to enhance sporting performance.

Club Jurisdiction

The club jurisdiction extends to the club premises and all activities organised by or for the club at any location or venue. (Including but not limited to, Preseason Camps, Club Functions, Fund Raisers, End of Season Trips and Celebrations).

Private behaviour of members is not included in this policy as the club cannot be responsible for its members behaviour outside the clubs jurisdiction; however this policy will apply whenever an individual is wearing a part of the official club uniform or at a clubs sponsor as this would identify them as being a representative of the club.

Illegal Drug Use

The possession, use, distribution or selling of illegal drugs for any purpose on club premises or at any function or activity organised by the club is strictly prohibited.

- In the case of an incident involving an illegal drug, the initial actions and responses will focus on the safety and welfare of those directly and indirectly involved. All responses and actions will reflect the clubs duty of care to members, visitors and all other people.
- The club will investigate all apparent or alleged breaches of this policy and determine a course of action after all relevant facts and circumstances are known.
- The club may refer a member who is involved in illegal drug use to a medical or health service for assistance or, if the club deems it necessary in the circumstances, to the police.

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MANAGING ILLEGAL DRUG INCIDENTS

Where a club member becomes aware that illegal drug use is occurring at the club or within its jurisdiction, the member should pass this information on to a member of the Committee of Management. The club member reporting the incident or occurrence is entitled to remain anonymous.

A member from the Executive Committee will:

1. Speak to the individual(s) in private, expressing concern about their drug use;
2. Remind the individual(s) of the club policy and ask for a commitment that it will not happen again;
3. Offer options for support and referral for counselling or other help;
4. Leave the door open for further communication with the individual(s) concerned;
5. Inform the Club President in the event of non-compliance.

If an individual(s) is under the influence of an illegal drug at the club, the club will:

1. Ensure the health and safety of the individual(s)
2. Keep the individual under supervision and monitor them at regular intervals;
3. Call for medical assistance if required;
4. Arrange safe transport to take them home, unless this involves further risk;
5. If the person becomes violent or aggressive, contact police to ensure the safety of all;
6. Contact next of Kin if deemed necessary/appropriate.
7. Inform the Club President as soon as possible.

Drugs found at the club or in the possession of an individual at a Club Function or Event.

If illegal drugs are found at the club or in the possession of an individual, the President or Executive Committee Member will be contacted as soon as possible.

The Club will:

- Isolate and secure the suspected drugs if required.
- Contact local police and request they attend the premises to collect the drugs.
- In the event the denies possessing drugs or refuses to relinquish possession of the drugs to the club. Ask the individual(s) to leave the premises immediately (assuming it is safe for them to do so). If it is not safe for them to do so, the club will contact local police or medical assistance as required.

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Supplying Illegal Drugs

If it is suspected or known that a member is supplying illegal drugs to other members of the club, an Executive member will:

- Speak to the individual to determine if they are supplying illegal drugs to others.
- Speak to witnesses to determine if there is reasonable belief an individual is supplying illegal drugs.
- If this is verified, or there is a strong belief this is occurring, the club will contact the local police.
- The individual will be immediately expelled from the club.
- If it is unable to be verified, the club will monitor the situation and notify the individual that the matter will be reported to the police if the club has continued concerns.

Privacy

- Subject to its right to contact the police, if necessary, the club will maintain the privacy of those involved where possible.
- The club will act with discretion when absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.
- Club personnel will be informed on a need to know basis only.

Contacting Parents

- In the interests of health and safety, the club will contact the parents or guardian of a minor where apparent or suspected illegal drug use has occurred.
- The club will inform all members aged under 18 years that parents will be notified if the club is aware (or strongly believes) they are using or supplying illegal drugs.
- If the member is aged over 18 years, the club will determine each case on its merits and decide whether contacting parents or guardians is in the best interests of the individual.

Contacting Police

- If the club is aware that a member is supplying illegal drugs to other members, they will notify local police of this activity.
- In the case of apparent or alleged illegal drug use, the club may report a person to police if they feel this needs to occur.

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Medical Emergency

The club understands that medical assistance may be required if a person has been using drugs and will contact emergency services when deemed necessary.

Non-Compliance

The club committee will enforce the illegal drug policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

Determine the circumstances of the non-compliance including,

- Whether it involved use or supply of illegal drugs.
- Whether the use or supply takes place within the clubs jurisdiction or in private.
- Whether the police are or should be involved.
- Age of the person involved.
- Whether the use was the first or subsequent known non-compliance.

In general, should it be determined that an individual(s) has not complied with this policy, the following may occur:

- The individual(s) concerned will be reminded of the club policy.
- Issue a warning of future sanctions for continued non-compliance.
- Suspension for a designated time period.
- Expulsion from the club.

Policy Review

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

Responsibility

As a player and/or member of the Batemans Bay Seahawks Australian Football Club, it is everyone's responsibility to implement this policy. Oversight and compliance is the responsibility of the Committee of Management.