



# ALCOHOL POLICY SPORTSGROUNDS, FACILITIES AND RESERVES

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## Alcohol Policy Sportsgrounds, Facilities and Reserves

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Policy Name:	Alcohol Policy- Sportsground, Facilities and Reserves
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Further Information:	
Objective:	To provide all users of sportsgrounds, facilities and reserves with an outline of their roles and responsibilities regarding the sale, consumption and storage of alcohol at Council owned facilities.

## 1. SCOPE OF THIS POLICY

This policy applies to the sale, storage and consumption of alcohol at all Council owned sportsgrounds, facilities and reserves.

## 2. OBJECTIVE OF THIS POLICY

The Objectives of this policy are to:

- Establish clear guidelines for all users, regarding the sale, storage and consumption of alcohol at Council owned facilities.
- Ensure that sportsgrounds within the Maitland LGA are safe and enjoyable for all members of the community, by assisting in minimising alcohol related antisocial behaviours.
- Establish clear guidelines for Council officers when assessing liquor license applications for sale and consumption of alcohol at Council recreation facilities.



### **3. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER POLICIES AND STRATEGIES**

This document should be read in conjunction with the Generic Plan of Management for Sportsgrounds (2008).

### **4. RELEVANT LEGISLATION**

The following legislation/ governing bodies were consulted to develop this policy:

- *Liquor Act 2007 (NSW)*
- *Liquor Regulation 2008 (NSW)*
- *Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing*
- *NSW Police*
- *Maitland Liquor Accord*

The Policy also refers to the principles of the Good Sports program

### **5. POLICY PRINCIPLES**

The following principles underpin the policy:

- Council owned sportsgrounds, facilities and reserves, are for the purpose of passive and active sport and recreation activities
- Acceptance of the role of Council in providing sportsgrounds, facilities and reserves that provide a family friendly environment for users, spectators and visitors
- Approved activities and uses of Council owned sportsgrounds, facilities and reserves will be carried out in a lawful manner, and in accordance with the conditions of their usage agreements.
- The authorised sales, storage and consumption of alcohol on Council owned sportsgrounds, facilities and reserves will be in accordance with the requirement under the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998, and any subsequent amendments
- Clubs that are approved for the sale of alcohol will be encouraged to register as a “Good Sports” club

### **6. CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

The following conditions provide the basis by which liquor licence applications will be considered by Council officers.



1. Applications for the sale and/or consumption of alcohol will not be supported at clubs with only junior teams registered.
2. Applications will not be supported for the sale and/or consumption of alcohol at times when junior teams are training or participating in matches.
3. In the event of junior and senior teams playing at the same facility/ reserve on the same day, a time period of 30 minutes following the conclusion of the junior match is required before the sale and/or consumption of alcohol can commence.
4. Applications for the sale of liquor will only be supported when there are organised club activities.  
Times when applications will be supported are between
  - Monday- Thursday: 6.00pm – 9.30pm
  - Friday: 6.00pm – 10.00pm
  - Saturday: 12 midday – 10.00pm
  - Sunday: 12 midday – 9.00pmLicences will not always be approved for the entirety of these hours. Clubs may apply outside of these hours and will be assessed on a case by case basis.
5. Any club that applies for a liquor licence that share a facility with another regular hirer during the same season, will be required to consult all user groups and advisory board where applicable and receive written confirmation before a licence will be granted.

## **7. CONDITIONS FOR THE SALE/ STORAGE/ CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL**

It is the responsibility of the Licensee at each sports club to ensure that all regulations from both the *Liquor act 2007 (NSW)* and the *Liquor Regulation 2008* are adhered to when selling alcohol.

1. As outlined in the *Liquor Act 2007 (NSW)* liquor may only be sold or supplied on the licensed premises to which a liquor license relates:
  - a.) By way of opened cans, opened bottles (not glass) or other opened containers, and
  - b.) At such times as are specified by the Authority in the licence
2. All alcohol that is consumed at the ground is to be done so in a designated “wet area” that is separate from the immediate area around the canteen. Given the varying layouts of sporting facilities in Maitland, the specific



location of Wet Areas at each facility will be determined by Council officers in consultation with NSW Police and the applicant sporting club.

- i) The sale and supply of alcohol during organised club activities at sporting facilities is to be authorised by the appropriate liquor licence issued by the Casino Liquor and Gaming Control Authority. (The Authority)
  - ii) The sale and supply of alcohol during organised activities at sporting facilities is only to take place on such dates and times as authorised by The Authority when issuing such liquor licence.
  - iii) All persons engaged in the sale and supply of alcohol at organised club activities at sporting facilities are to hold a current RSA certificate.
  - iv) All guidelines relating to the responsible service of alcohol are to be strictly adhered to by the licensee and other persons involved in the sale and supply of alcohol.
  - v) Appropriate Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing signage is to be clearly and prominently displayed at the point of sale indicating to club members and other patrons that the sale of alcohol to minors is prohibited.
3. During times when the sale of alcohol is occurring at sporting facilities, no pre-purchased alcohol is to be consumed at the facility. It is the responsibility of the hirer of the facility to enforce this condition.
  4. All alcohol that is kept at the facility is to be stored, where possible, in a locked cupboard, out of direct view from the general public. If this is not possible, every effort is to be made to ensure that the alcohol is not easily accessed by, or visible to the general public.

## **8. FAILURE TO COMPLY**

This policy has been developed to improve the overall amenity of Council facilities/ reserves and to ensure the appropriate use of these facilities. Failure to comply with the conditions outlined in the policy may result in penalties for user groups, dependant on the type of breach and frequency of the non-compliance.

Some examples of a breach of the policy may include but is not limited to the unlicensed selling of alcohol, selling or consuming alcohol outside of licenced



hours, frequent consumption of alcohol outside designated Wet Areas, anti-social behaviour that is a direct result of consumption of alcohol during club activities, consumption of pre-purchased alcohol at sporting facilities.

Consequences of non-compliance may result in recommendations being made by Council to the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing for the suspension or cancellation of a license.

Council will monitor liquor licenses in a number of ways including (but not limited to) spot checks of facilities to ensure all conditions are being adhered to, tabulation of all licensed hours and venues, investigating all reported incidents in relation to sale and consumption of alcohol at sporting facilities and liaising with NSW Police. In circumstances where Council has been made aware of a breach of the policy, Council may request the club to show Council what measure are being put in place to ensure similar breaches don't occur again.

## **9. POLICY REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed every five (5) years or sooner, if any amendments are made to the *Liquor act 2007* and *Liquor Regulation 2008* that may affect the policy or implementation of the policy.