



MELBOURNE
RUGBY CLUB

Alcohol Management Policy

The Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club

Effective date 22nd of October 2014

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Policy Governance

Approval	The Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club Committee is authorised to approve this Policy.
Effective Date	22 nd of October 2014 Updated 5 th of March 2018
Related policies	Internal The Rules of the Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club Vision, Mission & Values & Code of Conduct Safe Transport Policy Incident Register External Victorian Liquor Licensing Laws Good Sports Level 3 Accreditation requirements ARU Code of Conduct IRB Regulations
Legislation	For the avoidance of doubt, this Policy will not contravene any federal or state legislation, and will be updated should there be any conflict.
Review	A review will be conducted by the committee on an annual basis, or earlier if necessitated by external changes of the Policy.

Definitions

The following definitions are provided without limiting the ordinary and natural meaning of the words. For the avoidance of doubt, words that are not described below should be read in the context of their ordinary meaning.

ARU	Australian Rugby Union Limited
Member Union	Rugby Victoria Limited (Rugby VIC)
Club	The Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club - MRUFC
Member	A player (including an amateur or non-contract player), a referee, touch judge or other match official, a selector, coach, trainer, manager or other team official, or an individual involved in the organisation, administration or promotion of Rugby including a director, other officer or employee of a Rugby Body.
Rugby	Rugby Union

Guiding Statement

This policy has been developed with resources from the Australian Drug Foundation, Good Sports, Vic Sport and The Australian Rugby Union.

This policy aims to provide a basis for the responsible use and/or non use of alcohol by the Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club and is seen as fundamental to the aims of the club.

The club recognises the importance in holding a liquor license in the value it adds to the club, enabling it to generate income and hold social functions, but in doing so the club also accepts the responsibilities and expectations of the community in strictly adhering to the liquor licensing laws.

To ensure the aims of the club are upheld, and that alcohol is managed responsibly by the club and its members, the following requirements will apply when alcohol is served by the club at the club or during a club function.

Our Vision

To create a positive environment that is the best rugby experience in Victoria.

Our Mission

The Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club is committed to providing the opportunity for our members and the local community to enjoy Rugby Union and all aspects of the game. We also desire to create a centre of excellence for Rugby Union to foster development for the future of the sport.

Our Values

The Melbourne Rugby Union Football Club is committed to the provision of a high level of participation, safety, family and community spirit and opportunity in Rugby Union throughout our local community and Victoria. It aims to provide all members with fair competition; access to high standard coaching, grounds and facilities, and equity at all levels.

Our Aims

To field competitive teams in a club environment where they can enjoy themselves both on and off the field. To develop a strong sense of unity in the club and local community.

Serving Alcohol

Alcohol will be served according to the legal and moral requirements of the club's Liquor License with the safety and well being of patrons the priority.

The club maintains a current appropriate Liquor License.

Only RSA trained servers will serve alcohol.

Bar servers do not consume alcohol when on duty.

The club does not encourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol.

When serving non-pre-packaged alcohol standard drink measures will be served at all times.

Information posters about Standard Drink measures will be displayed in the bar.

The Liquor License and all legal signage will be displayed at the bar.

Names of RSA trained bar staff will be displayed.

An incident register shall be maintained and any incident recorded.

Intoxicated Patrons

Alcohol will not be served to any person who is intoxicated or drunk.

Servers will follow RSA training procedures when refusing service.

Intoxicated patrons will be asked to leave the premises.

Underage Drinking

Alcohol will not be served to persons aged under 18 years of age.

Servers and committee members will ask for proof of age whenever necessary or whenever in doubt.

Only photo identification will be accepted.

Junior Members

The club will not serve alcohol during junior games, throughout junior presentations or functions held for our junior players. The Club will actively limit junior players exposure to alcohol and encourage players, coaches, parents, members and supporters to respect this.

Alcohol Alternatives

The club recognises that alcohol is not the only revenue stream available and actively encourages the sales of alternative products to that of alcohol.

Tap water is provided free of charge in the club rooms.

At least four non-alcoholic drinks and one low-alcoholic drink option is always available and are at least 10% cheaper than full strength drinks.

Substantial food is available when the bar is open for more than 90 minutes or more than 15 people are present.

The club will avoid player prizes and raffle prizes that have an emphasis on alcohol.

Safe Transport

The Club has a Safe Transport Policy that is reviewed regularly in conjunction with the Alcohol Management Policy.

Non Compliance

All club committee members will enforce the alcohol management policy and any non-compliance, particularly in regard to Licensing Laws will be handled according to the following process:

Explanation of the club policy to the person/people concerned, including identification of the section of policy not being complied with.

Continued non-compliance with the policy should be handled by at least two committee members who will use their discretion as to the action taken, which may include asking the person/ people to leave the club facilities or function.

The club will monitor and ensure any club trips, particularly end of season player trips, strictly adhere to responsible behaviour and alcohol consumption in accordance with the principles of this policy and the aims of the club Mission and Values Statement.

Committee Policy Management

The presence of committee members is essential to ensure the operation of the bar and policy compliance. At least two duty committee members who are RSA trained are required to be present at all club functions when the bar is open. Key responsibilities of the duty committee members are to:

- Meet visiting police, cooperate and assist with any inquiries;
- Compliance in respect of persons under 18 years of age on premises;
- Ensuring intoxicated people are refused service and are asked to leave the premises;
- Ensuring strict compliance with the club policy in accordance with the key provisions of the Liquor Control Reform Act;
- Recording any incidents in the incident register.

Policy Promotion

The club will promote the alcohol management policy regularly by:

- Publishing a copy of the policy in the club newsletter annually and via the website;
- Displaying a copy of the policy in the club rooms;
- Periodic announcements to members at functions.

The club recognises the importance of educating club members, particularly players in the benefits of implementing an alcohol management policy and will endeavour to provide information to assist this process.

Policy Review

To ensure this policy continues to be relevant for club operation and that it reflects both community expectations and the provisions of the Liquor Control Reform Act, the policy will be reviewed annually by the committee and amended as required to reflect the changing needs of the club environment.