

ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT POLICY

NT CRICKET

February 2025

PURPOSE

NT Cricket's Alcohol Management Policy outlines NT Cricket's approach to and procedures for the responsible service, sale, and promotion of alcohol at DXC Arena during sporting events (namely cricket and AFL matches) and other associated activities under the issued Liquor Licence (Sporting Club Authority). The policy reflects our commitment to participants, spectators, members, guests, patrons and the broader community, recognising the important role Peak Sporting Bodies and local sports clubs play in fostering safe, healthy, and inclusive environments.

RATIONALE

This policy ensures a balanced and responsible approach to alcohol use at NT Cricket sporting events held at DXC Arena by:

- Meeting our duty of care to the health and safety of participants, spectators, members, guests, patrons and visitors.
- Upholding NT Cricket's reputation, as well as that of our sponsors, partners and members.
- Minimising risks associated with alcohol misuse.
- Complying with our Sporting Club Authority Liquor Licence under the Northern Territory Liquor Licensing Act 2019.

NT Cricket acknowledges the legal, financial, and social benefits of operating under a Liquor Licence while prioritising responsible management to support our community aims.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- Alcohol service at DXC Arena facilities during matches, training, and social functions.
- All players, coaches, officials, members, spectators, visitors, and staff at NT Cricket events where alcohol is consumed, whether onsite or offsite under club auspices.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- A risk management approach will be taken in planning events/activities involving the sale, supply or consumption of alcohol. Such events will be conducted and managed in a manner consistent with Liquor Licensing legislation and this policy.
- Alcohol misuse can lead to unsafe or unacceptable behaviour or risk taking. Excessive consumption of alcohol will not be an excuse for unacceptable behaviour, particularly behaviour that endangers others or breaches the law, this policy, the law, or NT Cricket's Code of Conduct.

NT Cricket supports responsible alcohol consumption and takes seriously any inappropriate behaviour resulting from excessive drinking. We will:

- Provide alcohol-free junior sporting events for young people and families.
- Not endorse events, celebrations or activities that promote excessive alcohol use.

All relevant parties must:

- Not compete, train, coach, officiate, volunteer or spectate if affected by alcohol.
- Not provide or encourage minors (under 18) to consume alcohol.
- Not participate in or promote excessive or rapid alcohol consumption (e.g., drinking games)



- Not offer alcohol-only awards (e.g., “bottomless glass” for milestones).
- Avoid pressuring others to drink and refrain from posting alcohol-related images from NT Cricket events on social media.
- Take personal responsibility for their behaviour when alcohol is available.

SERVING ALCOHOL

Alcohol will be served in accordance with our Liquor Licence, prioritising patron safety and well-being:

- **Trained Servers:** Only staff or volunteers with current Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) certificates will serve alcohol. Servers must not drink while on duty.
- **Licence Display:** The Liquor Licence will be displayed at the canteen area at all times.
- **Standard Drinks:** Non-pre-packaged drinks (e.g. in cups) will be served as standard measures where possible, with double spirits not permitted.
- **Minors:** Persons under 18 will not serve alcohol or be permitted behind the bar.
- **Monitoring:** An NT Cricket staff member, Senior Committee Member or RSA-trained staff will be present at all events where alcohol is served.
- **Consumption Limits:** Excessive or rapid drinking will not be permitted, with no cheap drink promotions or drinking competitions allowed.

INTOXICATED PATRONS

- **Definition:** A person is intoxicated if their speech, balance, coordination, or behaviour is noticeably affected due to alcohol consumption.
- **Refusal of Service:** Intoxicated individuals will not be served alcohol. Servers will follow RSA protocols for refusal, offering water and safe transport options instead.

- **Management:**
 - Non-disruptive intoxicated patrons will be supported with water and transport assistance.
 - Disruptive intoxicated patrons will be asked to leave immediately, with police contacted if necessary.
- **Entry Restriction:** Intoxicated persons will not be allowed to enter DXC Arena.
- **Incident Logging:** All alcohol-related incidents will be recorded in an Incident Register maintained at the bar.

PREVENTING HARMFUL EXPOSURE OF MINORS TO ALCOHOL

To protect minors from harmful alcohol exposure:

- **No Service:** Alcohol will not be served to anyone under 18. Servers will request photo ID (e.g., driver's licence, passport) if age is in doubt.
- **Supervised Areas:** When appropriate alcohol-free zones (e.g., family seating areas) will be designated during matches and events to minimise exposure to minors.
- **Junior Events:** Alcohol will not be advertised, promoted, or served at junior matches, training, or associated activities (e.g., school holiday clinics).
- **Change Rooms:** Drinking in change rooms will be strictly monitored and only permitted in supervised circumstances.
- **Education:** Participants, coaches, match officials, members, spectators and guests will be informed via online platforms, signage and committee meetings about our strict no-alcohol policy for minors.
- **Parental Responsibility:** Parents of minors found consuming alcohol at NT Cricket events will be notified, and the minor may be suspended from the event, with parents arranging transport home at their expense.

AVAILABILITY OF NON-ALCOHOLIC AND LOW ALCOHOL DRINKS

- **Food Availability:** Where possible substantial food (e.g., sandwiches) will be offered alongside snacks (e.g., chips, ice-creams), when a service of alcohol is in place.
- **Drink Options:** At least four non-alcoholic options (e.g. bottled water, sports drinks, juice and soft drinks) and one low-alcohol option (e.g., light beer) will be available, priced at least 10% cheaper than the cheapest full-strength drink.
- **Water Access:** Free jugs of water will be provided at the bar and throughout the venue.
- **Visibility:** Non-alcoholic drinks will be clearly displayed and adequately stocked.

FUNCTIONS IN LINE WITH SPORTING EVENTS

NT Cricket will ensure responsible alcohol management at functions:

- **Restrictions:** We will not host “all-you-can-drink” events, require minimum liquor sales, or include alcohol-only vouchers.
- **Advertising:** Promotions will equally highlight non-alcoholic options, avoid emphasising alcohol availability, and include clear event start/end times.

NOISE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY AMENITY

To mitigate undue noise impacting the neighbourhood around DXC Arena:

- **Sound Monitoring:**
 - A designated staff member is dedicated to monitoring sound levels during events using a handheld decibel meter (e.g., below 85 dB at the venue boundary), ensuring minimal impact on our neighbours.
 - Amplified music or announcements to cease in accordance with the Standard Operating Hours (20:30 PM) or Late Trading Days (23:00 PM) as permitted under the Liquor Licence.

- **Controlled Sound Levels:**

- Outdoor speakers are directed inward and away from the Darwin Golf Club to minimise sound spill towards Marrara residents.
 - Volume is to be adjusted or ceased based on real-time feedback from staff and/or community complaints.
 - Complaints lodged via our office email and/or phone are to be responded to in an immediate manner to rectify noise disturbance and cease the disharmonious situation. There will be a staff member dedicated to this responsibility on event days.
 - The audio equipment set up for sporting event activities will have a 'kill switch' that immediately enables cease to amplified sound.
- **Community Liaison:** Neighbours are to be notified in advance of major events via notifications on our online platforms, letterbox drops or community notices, with our office email and phone, provided for noise concerns.
 - **Post-Event Review:** Noise-related complaints will be logged and reviewed to adjust future events.

PROMOTION OF RESPONSIBLE ALCOHOL USE

- **Signage:** Posters on standard drinks, responsible drinking, and refusal of service will be displayed near the bar.
- **Junior Focus:** No alcohol promotion will occur at junior sporting activities.

NON-COMPLIANCE

- **Enforcement:** Staff will explain the policy to non-compliant individuals, referencing the breached section.

- **Escalation:** Continued non-compliance will be addressed by at least two staff members, who may ask the individual to leave.
- **Disciplinary Action:** Breaches (e.g., intoxication, serving minors, drink spiking) may result in suspension, membership termination, or police reporting, per NT Cricket's Code of Conduct.

POLICY MANAGEMENT AND REVIEW

- **RSA Presence:** A canteen manager or RSA-trained staff must be present whenever the bar is open to ensure compliance.
- **Incident Register:** Maintained at the canteen for all alcohol- and noise-related incidents.

This policy will be reviewed annually (next review: February 2026) or after significant incidents to reflect legal requirements, community expectations, and operational needs.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES

PRIMARY CONTACT

Name: Paige Sutherland
Organisation: Northern Territory Cricket Limited
Role: Events Manager
Phone: 0448 745 298
Email: paige.sutherland@ntcricket.com.au

SECONDARY CONTACTS

Name: Jake Pavlich
Organisation: Northern Territory Cricket Limited
Role: Head of Grounds and Facilities
Phone: 0401 733 662
Email: jake.pavlich@ntcricket.com.au

Name: Karl Mayne
Organisation: Northern Territory Cricket Limited
Role: Head of Clubs and Competitions
Phone: 0418 428 628
Email: karl.mayne@ntcricket.com.au