

WORK HEALTH SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Alcohol Policy POL 5900

Issued by: **WHS** Effective Date: 1 Oct 13

Rev: A

Page 1 of 2

1. PURPOSE

EFFECTS

Contrary to popular belief alcohol is a depressant drug that dampens the reflex mechanisms. This results in a steadying hand together with the psychological side effect of boosting confidence by, in some cases, depressing fears and masking inhibitions.

Body Effects

The effect of alcohol on the body varies between each person and circumstances. The following immediate effects of alcohol are registered in all people to a varying extent depending on the volume consumed, the physiology and circumstances at the time.

- Loss of inhibitions
- Flushing and dizziness
- General impairment of brain and nervous system functions
- Loss of co-ordination to varying degrees
- Aggression

EXCESS

Hockey NSW is cognizant of the potential danger of accidental injury in the sport of hockey. In extreme circumstance a hockey player under the influence of excessive alcohol could place other participating players at risk.

COMPARISON

It has been clearly established that reactions and judgment of a driver of a motor vehicle are seriously impaired to the point of being dangerous if driving with a blood alcohol level in excess of 0.05%. Having considered all the research, players and/or officials, whilst involved in a game, are to have a blood alcohol level of zero.

2. APPLICATION

These guidelines should apply at all Hockey New South Wales events where participants, volunteers or staff are, or are likely to be at risk from the consumption of excessive alcohol

3. REVIEW

The Chief Executive Officer shall periodically review this Policy, and may recommend to the Board that it be amended as necessary and / or upon amendments to applicable legislation.

Authorised by:	Title: Alcohol Policy	Page: 1
Version Date: August 2016	Next Review: August 2019	No of Pages: 2



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Page 2 of 2

4. PROCEDURE

It shall be the policy of Hockey NSW and its members that:

- Individual players whilst playing on the field;
- Individual coaches and individual officials whilst coaching and attending the players on the field
- Umpires and Technical Officials on that field;

when participating in a match sanctioned by Hockey NSW or one of its affiliates, if found to have a blood alcohol level in excess of zero, shall be disqualified for a term to be determined by the appropriate Disciplinary Committee

TESTING

A player's blood alcohol level may be tested and measured on any breathalyser instrument of the type and function approved by the relevant Police Department in the state in which the match was played.

PENALTIES

The penalty to be imposed shall be determined by the Disciplinary Committee of Hockey NSW or the relevant member Association

Authorised by:	Title: Alcohol Policy	Page: 2
Version Date: August 2016	Next Review: August 2019	No of Pages: 2