

## **Royal Life Saving Society – Australia**

### **Alcohol Policy**

#### **1. WHAT IS RLSSA'S POSITION ON ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION?**

RLSSA accepts that it occupies a community leadership position in setting standards for a wide range of social and sporting behaviours and believes that all people involved in its activities, whether or not in the public arena, should be treated with dignity and respect.

This Alcohol Policy aims to promote responsible attitudes and practices towards alcohol through leadership and support. Individuals covered by this Alcohol Policy have a role to play to help promote responsible decisions regarding alcohol in society.

As such, all national and international training camps, events and competitions where Royal Life Saving Society – Australia Representative Team Members are in attendance will be dry (**alcohol-free**) events.

#### **2. WHAT ARE THE OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS POLICY?**

- i. RLSSA will play its part by:
  - a. Not allowing individuals to participate in any sporting activities expressly sanctioned by RLSSA if they are consuming alcohol or under the influence of alcohol;
  - b. Not encouraging the promotion or service of alcohol in and around competition areas at underage events expressly sanctioned by the RLSSA;
  - c. Providing an alcohol-free (or restricted access to alcohol) environment for athletes and team personnel.
- ii. Individual Responsibilities:

RLSSA expects that individuals covered by this Policy and undertaking activities associated with Pool Lifesaving shall at all times where there is alcohol usage:

  - Behave in a dignified and professional manner that promotes and upholds standards of integrity, dignity and professionalism;
  - Act as role models for their club/team and RLSSA;
  - Not put themselves, club/teammates nor the general public at risk of serious physical and social harms;
  - Accept that they are responsible and accountable for the choices they make and the consequences of these choices;
  - Never supply or encourage consumption of alcohol by minors, and report immediately if a minor has been supplied with alcohol;
  - Assist their club/teammates and others covered by the Code of Conduct if they have had too much to drink; and
  - Take reasonable action to both prevent alcohol problems and address any alcohol-related issues as they emerge.
- iii. All *persons* who fail to comply with this Policy will have committed an *alcohol offence*.

- iv. All *persons* may be subject to investigation and/or be disciplined under this Policy.

### **3. WHO DOES THIS POLICY APPLY TO?**

This policy applies to following individuals whether in a paid or voluntary capacity:

- Registered athletes of RLSSA participating in teams or competitions conducted by or on behalf of RLSSA, Commonwealth Lifesaving or International Lifesaving;
- Accredited coaches and assistant coaches of teams organised by or on behalf of RLSSA;
- Support personnel with whom the RLSSA has a formal relationship;
- Registered referees and other officials of RLSSA; and
- Office bearers or other officials of RLSSA.

### **4. NON-COMPLIANCE**

RLSSA will take action for breaches of behaviour and responsibilities outlined in this policy.

If this agreement is breached at any stage during the event, travel and time nominated by RLSSA, the following may be actioned by RLSSA:

- i. reprimand the person/s (for all individuals associated with the event – both Under 18 years of age and Over 18 years of age and may include suspension from team activities or removal of the athlete from the team / tour);
- ii. if the person is a coach or official, recommend to RLSSA that their position be terminated; and/or
- iii. any other sanctions that it considers appropriate in the circumstances.