

PROPOSAL TO JOIN GOOD SPORTS PROGRAM - COMMITTEE DISCUSSION PAPER

1. What joining Good Sports means

Good Sports is a program created by the national Alcohol and Drug Foundation (ADF) to create a positive culture in community sporting clubs. It is endorsed by federal, state and local governments.

Becoming a Good Sports club means we have a policy in place that puts the health and welfare of our members, families and guests first.

To become an accredited Good Sports club involves putting in place policies and practices around:

- smoking
- alcohol management
- illegal drugs
- safe transport
- safe celebrations
- appropriate behaviour
- mental health support
- promotions and publicity.

2. Why it matters to us

Issues such as risky drinking, smoking and drug use can affect any community or club.

Mental health issues are also widespread across Australia, and sporting clubs are in a great place to provide support to members.

Our club values its reputation as a respected leader in the community.

We want our members and volunteers across all age groups and skill levels to feel safe, valued and welcome.

3. How it works

Once we register with the program, we work toward signing off our first policy to become an accredited Good Sports club. This covers key policies like smoking and alcohol management.

We will then work through to achieve the highest level of the program, and become a Good Sports Gold Medal club. This includes the full range of policies and actions ranging from illegal drugs, mental health and safe transport to supporting juniors. (We only need to complete the elements that are applicable to our club).

The easy online accreditation process involves working through relevant policy areas and complying with those policies. For example:

- Do we have the right non-smoking signs in the right places?
- Do we have staff trained in Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA)?
- Are we prepared for any drug-related issues, if they were to happen?
- Do we have safe transport options for members after celebrations?



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4. Advantages

Good Sports has done all the planning and the strategic thinking for us to save time and stress.

The Good Sports online program makes sure we're complying with all legal requirements and we haven't forgotten anything.

It is designed to cater for all different types of clubs, including ours.

It gives us a simple set of guidelines, in writing, that we can easily explain to members, parents, supporters, sponsors and the wider community.

As committee members, we will be prepared to respond to any issues that may occur and have a procedure in place to follow.

Being a Good Sports club with a reputation for responsible behaviour and an inclusive environment gives us leverage to attract new members, volunteers and sponsors.

5. Commitment

The online Good Sports program is designed for busy volunteers. The time commitment is low – generally we will only need to dedicate a few hours every year to keep things on track. We work at our own pace, whenever it is convenient. Good Sports can be accessed on any device.

6. Recommendations

It is therefore recommended:

- This committee agrees to become a Good Sports club.
- This committee nominates and appoints

(insert name)

to begin working through the online accreditation program and report back on progress at the next committee meeting.



For more information or support, visit: goodsports.com.au or contact goodsports@adf.org.au