



## Brisbane Churches Touch Association

### Illegal Drugs Policy

#### Introduction

Our Association does not allow the use, distribution or selling of illegal drugs by any Association member or any visitors within our Association's jurisdiction. This policy reflects our Association's commitment to protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of all persons associated with our Association and all persons in attendance at Association activities.

#### Purpose of this policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure our Association committee and Association members understand the Association's position regarding illegal drugs and how it will respond to a drug-related incident within its jurisdiction.

#### Extent of this policy

This policy refers to illegal drugs only, which is defined as "a substance that is not permitted to be taken or used according to state or national laws, such as cannabis (marijuana), amphetamines (speed and "ice"), ecstasy, cocaine, heroin, and synthetic drugs."

This policy does not apply to pharmaceutical drugs or performance enhancing drugs (unless they are captured in the above definition).

This policy should be read and understood in conjunction with our [Code of Conduct](#).

#### When does this policy apply?

This policy applies whenever the individual is taking part in activities under our Association's jurisdiction. This includes our Association's facilities, games, matches, training, events and trips organised by our Association.

Private behaviour of members is not included in this policy as our Association cannot be responsible for the behaviour of its members outside our Association's jurisdiction. However, this policy will apply whenever an individual is wearing a part of the official Association uniform which would identify them as being a representative of our Association.

#### Who does this policy apply to?

All Association members and visitors to our Association.

#### Responsibilities

Our Association will:

- Activate and comply with the policy.
- Promote the policy to everyone within our Association.
- Promote and role model expected standards of behaviours at all times.
- Appoint and support appropriate persons such as a Committee member to lead the initial response, investigation and action for all illegal drug-related incidents.
- Respond to breaches of this policy discreetly and in a timely manner.
- Investigate all apparent, or alleged, breaches of this policy and take action after all relevant facts and circumstances are known.
- Ensure all responses and actions will reflect the Association's duty of care to members and visitors.
- Review this policy regularly.

Individuals will:

- Comply with the policy.
- Promote and role model expected standards of behaviours at all times.
- Be responsible and accountable for their behaviour.
- Alert Association officials or the Committee member with any concern about illegal drug use within our Association.
- Honour our commitment to the health, safety and welfare of all of our members.

## Privacy

Where possible, the investigation of illegal drug-related concerns or incidents will remain confidential in line with our [Privacy Policy](#).

## Investigating the concern or incident

A Committee member will investigate all illegal drug-related concerns or incidents in a timely and discreet manner.

Once all relevant facts and circumstances are known, the Committee member will recommend appropriate approaches and/or disciplinary measures to our Association committee based on the guiding principles outlined in this policy.

## Response

When responding to an illegal drug-related concern or incident, the responses by our Association will focus on the safety and welfare of those directly and indirectly involved. All responses will reflect the Association's duty of care to members and visitors.

All illegal drug-related concerns or incidents should be discussed with a Committee member as soon as possible. The Committee member will document the issue using the incident register and investigate the concern/incident further.

If illegal drugs are being used, distributed or sold on our Association's grounds by a member or visitor of any age, the Committee member or President will contact the local police to seek their advice.

If illegal drugs are found within our Association's jurisdiction the Committee member or President will contact local police to seek their advice and so they can be disposed of safely.

## Illegal drug use by a member under 18 years

Where the Association identifies that a person under the age of 18 years is involved in illegal drug use our Association will:

- Inform the individual that a Committee member will contact the parent or guardian to discuss the incident, if it is appropriate and safe to do so.
- Contact the parent or guardian to discuss, unless informing the parent or guardian would put the individual at risk of greater harm.
- In the case of a visitor in this instance, our Association will inform the visiting Association.

## Non-compliance with policy

Our Association will respond to all breaches of this policy. Any disciplinary measures imposed under our policy must:

- Be fair and reasonable and will focus on the safety and welfare of those directly and indirectly involved.
- Be based on the evidence and information gathered and the impact on the Association, other members, players, patrons, visitors and the community.
- Take into account the age and personal circumstances of the people involved.
- Take into account whether the incident involved personal use of an illegal drug and/or the supply of an illegal drug to other people.

**Last update: 2 October 2018**