



## **MONARO PANTHERS FOOTBALL CLUB JUNIOR POLICY**

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### **Rationale**

This Policy provides a basis for Monaro Panthers Football Club to be a positive influence on younger club members and make the club a safe and healthy place for families to play and enjoy football (soccer). The Policy also assists the club to:

- Meet its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members and visitors who attend our club games, events, functions and other activities.
- Uphold the reputation of the club, our sponsors and partners.
- Understand and reduce the risks associated with alcohol, smoking, food safety and inappropriate behaviour.

### **Alcohol**

- Junior players are not permitted to drink alcohol at the club facilities or at any club events, activities or presentations.
- Alcohol will not be available for sale or allowed to be consumed during junior competition, including at additional and special competitions.
- Alcohol will not be served [during junior club functions and presentations] or [in the presence of juniors at junior club functions and presentations].
- Alcohol brands and products will not be advertised by the junior club and will not be placed on junior apparel.
- Alcohol will not be provided as awards and 'thank-you's' to adults at junior presentations.
- Alcohol will not be used as fundraising prizes by the junior club.

### **Smoking**

Monaro Panthers Football Club recognises that secondhand tobacco smoke is hazardous to people's health. Non-smoking club members and visitors have the right to be protected from exposure to tobacco smoke. Accordingly:

- All junior events will be promoted as smoke-free, regardless of where they are held.
- No-smoking signage and/or signage promoting the event as smoke-free will be displayed around the club (if possible).

### **Healthy eating**

Monaro Panthers Football Club recognises that consumption of healthy food and drink can contribute to good health and well-being and also supports good performance on the [field/track/court/pool]. Our club is committed to providing and promoting safe and healthy food and drink options at our club and will implement the following strategies:

- Water will be promoted as the drink of choice.
- Healthy food and drink options will be available and more prominently displayed than unhealthy options in the canteen and at club events (i.e. club BBQ's).
- Healthy food and drink options, including provision of snacks at half time or after the game, fundraising items, rewards and prizes, will be promoted to club members and visitors.
- At least one person, who regularly volunteers in the canteen or supervisors/manages the canteen, will have undertaken food safety online training.

### **Spectator behaviour**

Monaro Panthers Football Club is committed to creating a safe, respectful and positive club environment where players, officials, members and families can thrive. Parents, associate members or others who have agreed to abide by our club's Code of Conduct and policies, including this Policy, who have behaved inappropriately, may face disciplinary action.

Accordingly, all parents of junior players and visitors are required to:

- Respect the referee's decisions – don't complain or argue about decisions during or after a game.
- Encourage players to play by the rules and to respect opposition players and officials.
- Never ridicule or scorn a player for making a mistake – respect their efforts.
- Condemn all violent or illegal acts, whether they are by players, coaches, officials, parents or spectators.
- Understand that sport is part of a total life experience, and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the final score of a game.
- Participate in positive cheering that encourages the players in the team you are supporting; do not engage in any cheering that taunts or intimidates opponents, their fans or officials.
- Remember that children participate for their own enjoyment, not yours.
- Follow the directions of the Ground Manager and/or other duty officials at all times.
- Never arrive at a game under the influence of alcohol.
- Not use unsportsmanlike language, harass others or behave aggressively.

### **Non-compliance**

All club committee members will enforce this Policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

- The Policy will be explained to the person/people concerned, specifically identifying the section of Policy not being complied with.
- Continued non-compliance with the Policy will be handled by at least two committee members who will use their discretion as to the action taken.

### **Policy review**

This Policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.