



WESTERN DISTRICTS BASEBALL CLUB INC. SMOKE FREE POLICY

SMOKEFREE POLICY – FOR SPORTS CLUBS WANTING TO IMPLEMENT A COMPLETE BAN ON SMOKING RATIONALE

Legislation and the legal duty of care provide clear reasons to have a completely smokefree club. Going completely smokefree will help our club comply with these responsibilities and provide a healthier club environment.

- **Queensland's smoking laws are governed by the:**
 - **Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998**
 - **Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Regulation 2021.:**
Organised under-18 sporting and recreational events

Smoking is banned at and within 10 metres of activity, viewing and playing areas at:

- organised children's activities while activity is being provided.
- organised under-18 sporting events during training or practice sessions, and at any intervals or breaks in play.
- For children's sporting events the ban includes the sporting ground or playing area, the viewing area for a water sport, public seating at the grounds and any other area reserved for use by the competitors and the officials.
- This also includes a 10-metre non-smoking buffer zone from all of these locations, but this does not extend into residential or business premises that share a boundary with these areas.
- An organised under-18 sporting event is one that is arranged in advance, is conducted by a professional or amateur sporting body or education institution according to established rules and is intended for or predominately participated in by people under 18.
- **Common law:** the club has a legal duty to ensure that employees, volunteers, members, spectators, players, officials and

visitors are not exposed to potentially harmful situations.

- **Role modelling:** can have a significant impact on the junior members of the club. A smokefree policy can make smoking less visible and less socially acceptable, whilst creating a healthier and more attractive environment for new members and sponsors.
- **Effects on others:** Second-hand smoke is considered irritating and harmful to the health of other people, even when outdoors. Children may be at risk of swallowing discarded cigarette butts, which may cause symptoms of nicotine poisoning such as vomiting.
- **Smokefree areas:** may support people who are trying to quit or reduce their cigarette consumption. They also help reduce cigarette butt litter and reduce fire risks.

Accordingly, the following smokefree policy has been developed by Western Districts Baseball Club Inc.

WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE POLICY

This policy applies to all members, administrators, officials, coaches, players, spectators, visitors and volunteers of the **Western Districts Baseball Club Inc.** at all times.

TIMING

The policy is effective from **1 January 2026**

SMOKEFREE AREAS

The Western Districts Baseball Club Inc. requires the entire area of the **Atthows Park designated for baseball** to be smokefree.

This includes:

- Clubrooms, all toilets and the batting cage
- all outdoor playing/training/canteen/drinking areas
- spectator viewing areas
- car parks



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Where possible, the smokefree status of our club will be clearly signed at the entrance to, and within the club grounds.

The smokefree status of the club will be promoted in club materials from time to time.

POSITION ON ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES

Electronic cigarettes may be harmful to users and to those exposed to second-hand vapour. In addition, the use of electronic cigarettes may give children and young adults the impression that smoking is a normal or desirable behaviour.

This policy therefore applies to both electronic cigarettes and traditional cigarettes. Electronic cigarettes are not permitted to be used in any of the smokefree areas referred to in this policy.

REMOVING THE SOCIAL NORM OF SMOKING FOR JUNIOR PLAYERS

Members of **Western Districts Baseball Club Inc.** are to refrain from smoking while they are acting in an official capacity for the club or while in club uniform, including at away games.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS WHO SMOKE

Western Districts Baseball Club Inc. may on occasion promote smoking cessation resources such as the Quitline on club materials.

FOLLOWING THE POLICY

There is strong community support for banning smoking at public places regularly attended by children. This means most people will voluntarily comply with the smoking ban and expect others to do so. Please note that committee members and volunteers will not be expected to *enforce* the new policy and may not be empowered to do so, although they may still approach someone who is not following the policy.

When approaching a person who is smoking in a non-smoking area:

1. assume that the person is unaware of the policy

2. politely ask them to refrain from smoking and remind them about the smokefree policy.

SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

The Western Districts Baseball Club Inc. will not sell tobacco products.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed six months after its introduction and then on an annual basis thereafter.

This will ensure that the policy remains current and practical.