



Position Statement on Alcohol & Other Drugs

Version	Endorsement Date	Summary of Changes
v1.0	20/06/2018	Initial release of HA Board approved policy.

Related Documents

- HA National Member Protection Policy v4.0 30/10/16 (see Attachment B1 Handball Australia Code of Behaviour)
- HA Anti-Doping Policy 1/1/15
- HA EOI Training Squad or Team Selection Form v1.2 1/10/17
- HA Code of Conduct
- HA Procedure for Determining Code of Conduct Breaches

Scope

This policy applies to all team members and officials. This includes athletes, coaches, managers, medical personnel, officials and other volunteers.

Any references to Australian Handball Federation (AHF) and Handball Australia (HA) are to be taken to mean the same organisation.

Purpose

Handball Australia is committed to creating a national team environment which supports high performance and ensures that the highest standards of conduct are maintained by all team members (athletes and officials) throughout the entire representative period.

Team members and officials are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which is consistent with the Code of Conduct. All team members and officials are expected to consider the needs of their own team members and other teams, who are preparing for, or are in, competition and should not behave in a manner which may disrupt or negatively impact on the performance of others.

For all national team members, including officials, the following restrictions will apply with respect to alcohol and other drugs during the representative period (defined in the relevant Code of Conduct/Team Agreement).

The consumption of alcohol and other drugs, while in any identifiable component of the national team uniform (including tracksuit jackets) **is not permitted by any team member or official** during the representative period. Illegal or illicit substances are completely banned. At all times, local laws in relation to alcohol and other drugs must be observed.

An exception applies for team officials (but not athletes) for when they are required to attend an official event function wearing components of the team uniform. However, any consumption of alcohol must be in moderation in accordance with the Code of Conduct and this Position Statement.

Team members are not permitted to be present at the event venue, in the official team hotel or other designated team locations if they are intoxicated and/or displaying conduct which may be inappropriate or disruptive to others. This conduct includes:

- being disorderly or argumentative
- being bad tempered, aggressive or using offensive language
- swaying, staggering or falling about
- having rambling conversations
- having difficulty in paying attention or comprehending others
- annoying fellow team members and others or
- other conduct deemed to be inconsistent with the standards set out in the HA Code of Conduct.

Any member of an official touring party found to be in breach of the Code of Conduct or this Position Statement will be subject to disciplinary action. This will be managed in accordance with the *HA Procedure for Determining Code of Conduct Breaches*. Sanctions can include removal of the team member or official with the requirement to return home at the member's own expense (or the parent/carer's expense where under 18).

These restrictions have been implemented to ensure that Australia's National Handball teams are given the opportunity to compete to the best of their ability and with distinction.