**NTWA Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances Policy**

**Introduction**

The NTWA is committed to a healthy and safe environment that strongly discourages the inappropriate consumption of alcohol and/or the use, distribution or purchase of illicit drugs and other substances. In accordance with the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011*, the NTWA has a duty of care to ensure the health and safety of all coaches, committee members, children, competitors and spectators are protected from the dangers of alcohol, illicit drug and/or substance misuse whilst on NTWA premises or using NTWA facilities.

**Relevant Definitions**

**Alcohol (liquor)** (according to the *Liquor Act 1980 (NT)*) means a beverage that contains more than 1.15% by volume of ethyl alcohol

**Authorised officer** means a person affiliated with the NTWA committee (or any member of a law enforcement agency) who has responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of others in his or her care for example, the Juniors weightlifting program

**Drunk** (according to the *Liquor Act 1980 (NT)*) means a person’s speech, balance, coordination or behaviour appears to be noticeably impaired and it is reasonable in the circumstances to believe the impairment results from the person’s consumption of alcohol;

**Substances** means any prescribed and non-prescribed medication and solvents and may include, but is not limited to, glue, petrol, aerosols etc;

**Policy statement**

All members of the NTWA community are obliged to take reasonable care and maintain standards of acceptable behaviour whilst on NTWA premises and when representing the NTWA.

There is an expectation that each member of the NTWA community will be, at all times, unimpaired by alcohol, illicit drugs and/or other substances whilst attending or representing the NTWA.

Unlawful, excessive and/or irresponsible use of alcohol, drugs and other substances can have a negative impact on judgement, academic or work performance, health, personal relationships, safety and overall wellbeing of the individual. It can also impact on the operating capability of the NTWA, the safety of the members of NTWA community, and can result in damage to person, property and/or equipment.

The NTWA will not accept alcohol, drug misuse and/or substance abuse as an excuse for inappropriate behaviour or sub-standard performance, and will assist members who develop alcohol, drug and/or substance abuse problems through appropriate rehabilitation and support programs as far as reasonably practicable.

NTWA members must arrive at the premises free from the effects of alcohol, illicit drugs and/or other substances. The consumption of alcohol or misuse of drugs or substances is forbidden in and around NTWA premises.

Failure to abide by the terms outlined in this policy may lead to disciplinary action, and if severe enough may be referred to the relevant law enforcement authorities.

**Strategies and practices**

* Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances will not be permitted in any enclosed areas utilised by NTWA.
* Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances will not be permitted in any open space 10 metres from the NTWA outdoor area or fence line.
* Coaches and volunteers employed by NTWA will not use Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances in front of, or in the sight of, children in their care.
* No persons will be allowed to promote the use of Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances in and around a training premises, or advertise the fact they take Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances to other coaches and volunteers, children or families.
* Students, volunteers and visitors to the service will not be permitted to use Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances on the premises and will adhere to the Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances Policy.
* It is illegal to provide Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances products to persons under the age of 18 years.
* Parents, family members or relatives of children attending NTWA activities or events will not be allowed Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances on the premises and will adhere to the Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances Policy
* The responsibility for enforcing this policy rests with the NTWA committee members. All are obliged under the occupational health and safety legislation to protect the health of their fellow coaches, and visitors, while at the service.

**Policy review**

* The service will review the Alcohol, Drugs and other Substances Policy

and procedures, and related documents including behaviors and practices every 2 Years.

* Members are encouraged to collaborate with the service to review the policy and procedures.
* NTWA committee members are essential stakeholders in the policy review process and will be encouraged to be actively involved.

**Links to other policies**

The following are a list of examples:

* Liquor Act 1980 (NT)
* NTWA Junior Lifters’ Safety and Wellbeing Policy

**Sources and further reading**

Liquor Act 1980 (NT)

**Ratified**

Mr. Mathew Letts

Chair, NTWA Committee

February 2017