



Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking & Vaping Policy

Revision: *November 2025*

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of all members, volunteers, employees, and visitors at the Whiritoa Lifeguard Service (Club). This policy aims to promote a safe, supportive environment by outlining the standards and expectations regarding the use of alcohol, drugs, smoking and vaping. This is consistent with our commitment to providing a professional lifesaving service, maintaining the Club's integrity, and promoting responsible behaviour. It is recognised that the consumption of intoxicating liquor is a societal and legally acceptable practice. The Club will provide for this with the provision of a bar/lounge operated for the community that it co-exists in and managed according to the Liquor Licensing act and Territorial Authority requirements. The atmosphere existing and behaviour exhibited shall enhance the Family environment that the Club promotes. Smoking and Vaping is not permitted either inside or outside of the Whiritoa Lifeguard Service clubrooms.

Scope

This policy applies to all members, staff, volunteers, contractors, and visitors engaged in any Club activities, whether on or off Club premises, including events, patrols, competitions, and training sessions.

Policy Principles

The Whiritoa Lifeguard Service is committed to:

- Promoting a healthy, safe, and productive environment free from the influence of alcohol and illegal drugs.
- Ensuring all members are fit for duty during lifesaving operations, training, and other Club activities.
- Encouraging responsible alcohol consumption during social events at the Club.
- Complying with New Zealand laws relating to alcohol and drugs, including the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975.



Liquor Licence

The Club maintains a 'Club Liquor License' issued by the Local Liquor Licensing Committee. The licence shall be displayed in a prominent place within the lounge. A 'Club' licence allows for sale to members within designated days, hours and areas of the Clubhouse. A range of non-alcoholic drinks and food is also to be provided. Only purchased product may be consumed in the Clubhouse when the Bar is open. BYO is not permitted when the Bar is open.

Hours of Operation

The hours of opening within the prescribed hours on the licence shall be agreed from time to time by the Club Committee. Operation outside the license hours, by the Club or Hirers of the Club, can be undertaken with the application for a Special Liquor Licence from the Local Liquor Licensing Committee. A special license is required for private events that fall outside of the Club license conditions.

Bar Management

Managers shall be currently licensed Duty Managers. During the hours the Bar is open and 30minutes after closing the Bar Manager is responsible for the Licensed Areas and the Patrons in the Licensed Areas. On occasions when the Club's Lifeguards are operational this responsibility will be joint with the Lifeguarding Director or Patrol Captain.

Licensed Areas

The areas covered by our license are;

- a. The passageway from the front door to the lounge
- b. The Lounge and Bar
- c. The Main Kitchen
- d. The grassed area in front of the Lounge and Hall
- e. The Hall
- f. The passageway from the SE corner of the hall to the ablution areas.



Visitors

A visitors' book shall be maintained at the entrance to the Lounge or at the Bar if there is no staff available at the entrance. A member may sign in up to Five visitors per visit to the Club. It is preferred that if Members have regular guests join them at the Bar, that they encourage them to sign-up for their own membership to the Club.

Consumption of Alcohol

All alcohol consumed in the Clubhouse is to be purchased from the Bar during licensed hours. Consumption in the Lifeguards Areas is the responsibility of the Lifeguard Director or Patrol Captain. No consumption in the Lifeguards Areas may take place while the Bar is open to members (Lifeguards Area is defined as, Lifeguard Kitchen/Lounge and Bunk rooms)

The consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited before or during lifesaving duties, training, or any activities where Club members are responsible for the safety of others.

Alcohol may only be consumed at official Club events that are in accordance with licensing requirements and laws. The Club encourages moderation and responsible drinking at such events.

Club members are encouraged to ensure safe transportation for themselves and others when attending Club functions where alcohol is served.

Illegal Drugs and Controlled Substances

The possession, use, sale, or distribution of illegal drugs or controlled substances is strictly prohibited on Club premises and during any Club-related activity.

Any Club member found in possession or under the influence of illegal drugs while engaged in lifesaving duties or other Club activities will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include suspension or expulsion from the Club.

Prescription medications that may impair the ability to perform lifesaving duties should be disclosed to the Patrol Captain and Lifeguard Director prior to any lifeguard duties are commenced. Members are encouraged to seek medical advice before undertaking any duties while on medication.

Any non-Members to have been consuming, selling, encouraging the use or in being possession of any illegal substance on the Club premises or, during an event sanctioned by



the Club, shall be reported to the New Zealand Police at the earliest opportunity after the event was observed or reported.

Unacceptable Behaviour and Persons

Reported behaviour not befitting the Clubs objectives shall be investigated by a Judicial subcommittee in accordance with the Club's constitution. Persons deemed unacceptable to the Club shall be issued a trespass notice with a copy to the Whangamata Police.

Never consume alcohol, drugs, smoking or vaping while wearing the SLSNZ uniform, while wearing the uniform you are still representing the Club.

Access to restricted Club areas

The Lifeguards Area (defined as Lifeguard Kitchen/Lounge and Bunk rooms) is restricted to fully qualified current Lifeguards, or Rookies / Trainees (when on patrol) or executive committee members. All persons aged 16 or younger who are eligible to access these areas can only do so during between the hours of 7am – 10pm Monday – Sunday, or at the discretion of the Lifeguard Director, Patrol Captain or Senior Guard on duty. After 10pm and before 7am this area is restricted to fully qualified current Lifeguards or executive committee members aged 17years or older unless approved by the Lifeguard Director, Patrol Captain or Senior Guard on duty.

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of all members to adhere to this policy and maintain the Club's reputation as a responsible organisation. Any concerns regarding alcohol or drug use should be reported to the Club Chairperson or President.

The Club's Committee is responsible for ensuring that this policy is communicated, understood, and enforced. The Committee will ensure that all events comply with legal requirements and that any breaches of this policy are addressed appropriately.

Those organising Club events must ensure that alcohol is served in accordance with legal requirements and that responsible drinking practices are promoted.



Support for Members

The Club recognises that alcohol or drug dependency is a health issue. Members struggling with substance abuse are encouraged to seek help, and the Club will support those who take steps to address these issues. Referrals to external support services may be provided confidentially.

Promulgated at Committee Meeting Dated	23 rd November 2025
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