



# **Gymnastics**

Australian Capital Territory

## **Alcohol and Non-Prescription Drugs Policy**

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**Approval: ACTGA Committee**

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**Date Adopted by ACT Gymnastics: 18<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

**Date Policy Effective: 18<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(President ACT Gymnastic Association Inc)**

# 1 INTENT OF THE POLICY

## 1.1 General

This policy has been designed to address and manage the issues about alcohol and non-prescriptive drug use in the sport of gymnastics.

It relates to both “on the field of play” and “off the field of play” issues and the duty of care for all ACTGA members.

In addition, the ACTGA Anti-Doping Policy #ACTGAPOL 01-001 outlines the ACTGA position on the use of performance enhancing drugs and doping practises.

### 1.1.1 On the Field of Play

The policy is designed to:

- ensure gymnastics is always performed in safe conditions;
- clarify to all participants the actions that will be implemented should any alcohol and drug use or the effects of alcohol and drug use be observed;
- clarify who should take action;
- relate to on the field of play gymnasts, coaches, managers, officials and observers at an event
- ensure that all team members are knowledgeable and compliant to the Drug Policy as set by Gymnastic Australia.

### 1.1.2 Off the Field of Play

The policy is designed to:

- support ‘responsible drinking’ behaviour;
- educate the gymnastic community on ‘responsible drinking’ behaviour;
- reinforce that underage drinking will not be permitted;
- clarify the actions that will be taken by whom should alcohol consumption go beyond ‘responsible drinking’ behaviour;
- clarify the actions that will be taken by whom in respect to the use of non-prescriptive drug use.

## 1.2 Scope

This Policy applies to all members of the ACTGA, employees, officers, administrators, volunteers, coaches, judges, athletes and officials (**Members**).

## 1.3 Updates

This Policy will be reviewed and updated accordingly as part of the ACTGA annual policy review process.

## **2 POLICY BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE**

### **2.1 Background**

A number of ACTGA and Gymnastics Australia (GA) policies and agreements provide relevant background information to this policy.

- Coaches code of ethics;
- Member Protection Policy;
- Team Agreement;
- Territory Good Sport Program.

Responsible drinking is supported by ACTGA at off the field of play activities conducted by ACTGA or GA (related to activities where alcohol is served). There are no circumstances within the ACTGA where people under the legal drinking age are to be served alcohol or under which the ACTGA would condone the consumption of alcohol by members under the legal drinking age. There are no circumstances within the jurisdiction of the ACTGA that permit participation in any gymnastic performance or training by a gymnast, coach or other official when alcohol or non-prescription drugs have been consumed prior to and the effects of that consumption can be observed.

## **3 HOW THE POLICY WORKS**

### **3.1 Alcohol and Non-Prescription Drug Use On the Field of Play**

- 3.1.1 The ACTGA supports the Anti-Doping Policy adopted by GA and the Australian Sports Commission. It is the responsibility of all athletes, coaches, managers and primary care givers to be familiar and compliant with this policy. The full policy is available from the ACTGA.
- 3.1.2 Athletes must comply with demands for random drug testing implemented by the appropriate entity. It is the athlete's responsibility to be aware of testing procedures and to insist due process is followed.
- 3.1.3 There are no circumstances within the jurisdiction of the ACTGA that permit participation in any gymnastic performance or training when alcohol or non-prescription drugs have been consumed prior to the event and its effects either observed or suspected.
- 3.1.4 Any athlete, coach, manager or team official, representing the ACT at any event and observed or suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs is to be ruled ineligible to participate by the Head of Delegation or a person appointed by the ACTGA Committee.
- 3.1.5 Any athlete, coach, manager or team official participating at any ACTGA event and observed or suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs is to be ruled ineligible to participate by the Competition Director or a person appointed by the event committee.

### **3.2 Alcohol and Non-Prescription Drug Use Off the Field of Play**

- 3.2.1 At any event conducted by ACTGA, offending guests, including any ACTGA member, will be asked to leave the event by management or security personnel. Further action relating to future attendance, may be implemented in the case of repeat misbehaviour.

- 3.2.2 At any function conducted by the ACTGA any guest demonstrating the effects of alcohol or non-prescription drugs, will be asked to:
- Leave – if appropriate and over the age of 18 years (care is to be taken to ensure they do not drive themselves away from the venue);
  - Contact a parent or suitable person to collect the affected person;
  - Remove themselves to an available room which is to be booked at their own cost and care provided for the guest.
- 3.2.3 In the case of visual effects of alcohol over-consumption during a function, actions will be implemented as detailed in 3.2.2
- 3.2.4 Guests under the age of 18 years are not to be served alcohol during a function. Should a guest breach this, both the guest who procured the alcohol for the under age guest and the under age guest are to be asked to leave. The under age guest is to be collected by a parent or appropriate person or actions taken as outlined in 3.2.2.
- 3.2.5 Any member of ACTGA supplying alcohol to under aged persons will be asked to leave the function and will be required to attend a disciplinary committee hearing.
- 3.2.6 Serious breaches shall be dealt with by the ACTGA Committee according to the Constitution and by-laws in respect of Disciplinary Procedures. At all times the laws of natural justice must prevail.

## **4 THE POLICY**

### **4.1 On the field of Play**

Any person considered by the appointed ACTGA official to be affected by alcohol or non-prescription drugs shall be ruled ineligible to participate in any gymnastic activities.

The ACTGA official shall seek whatever assistance, advice and support necessary from any appropriate and available source to enable the official to determine such ineligibility.

### **4.2 Off the Field of Play**

Any person considered by the appointed ACTGA official to be affected by alcohol beyond 'responsible drinking' behaviours or seemingly affected by non-prescriptive drug use will be asked to leave, or be removed, from the event.

The ACTGA official shall seek whatever assistance, advice and support necessary from any appropriate and available source to enable the official to determine such ineligibility.

### **4.3 General**

In respect of both policies, appropriate procedures will be implemented to ensure well-being for all and correct processes are adopted in the application of the policies.