



SMOKE/VAPE FREE POLICY

Rationale

The Darwin Netball Association (DNA) recognises that:

- The same rules for smoking cigarettes apply to vaping.
- Environmental (second-hand) tobacco smoke is a health hazard and that non-smokers should be protected from it.
- For non smokers there are no health benefits of using vapes, it only causes harm. <https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/healthy-living/vaping#:~:text=headaches,-.Rules%20for%20buying%20and%20using%20vapes,can%20sell%20nicotine%2Dcontaining%20vapes>
- Vaping is especially concerning for young people because their brains are still developing and the chemicals in vapes can harm their brain development.
- Young people vaping can also become addicted to nicotine quicker and at lower less regular levels of consumption than adults. This can have an effect on learning, memory, attention, impulse control and mood.
- Role modelling can have a significant impact upon the junior members of the DNA.
- Smoke/Vape free areas make smoking/vaping less visible and less socially acceptable.
- Smoke/Vape free areas support smokers/vapers who are trying to quit as well as reduce their overall cigarette/vape consumption.
- Outdoor smoke/Vape free areas help to reduce the amount of cigarette butt litter (reducing clean-up costs, fire risk and children's health risk due to swallowing discarded butts).
- Smoke/Vape free environments are advantageous in attracting new members as well as positively promoting the DNA in the community.

The DNA recognises that role modelling can have a significant impact on junior members of the Association.

Northern Territory legislation (*Tobacco Control Act*) also prohibits smoking at fenced sporting grounds at which persons may consume food or drink purchased at the ground.

Accordingly, the following policy shall apply to all members, administrators, officials, coaches, players, spectators, visitors and other volunteers and/or or staff of the Association.

The DNA recognises that exposure of non-smokers to tobacco smoke (passive smoking) is hazardous to health and that non-smokers should be protected. Passive smoking can lead to serious illnesses in adults such as bronchitis, lung cancer, and cardiovascular disease. Children can also develop chest illnesses and asthma from exposure to tobacco smoke. Accordingly, the following policy has been developed to protect the health of all concerned.

Legislation

As from 1 January 2011, the facilities at Sitzler Netball Courts, Marrara were designated smoke/vape free under the *Tobacco Control Act*. As Netball NT control a licenced venue within the facilities it is DNA's responsibility to designate smoking/vaping areas within the facilities. This means that smokers/vapers are only allowed to smoke/vape in the areas designated.



Darwin Netball Association

General

- Cigarettes and other tobacco products will not be sold, including from vending machines, at any time at or by the DNA.
- Coaches, players, officials and volunteers will refrain from smoking/vaping while involved in an official capacity for the DNA, on and off the court/facility.
- No images of DNA volunteers, members, officials, coaches and players smoking/vaping at DNA-related activities are to be placed on social media.

Designated Smoke/Vape Free Areas

The following areas are Smoke/Vape Free:

- Administration and office areas
- Change rooms
- Toilet block
- Court area and surrounds.
- Eating areas
- Near open windows (five metre radius around open windows)
- Near entries and exits of buildings, facilities, and the ground (five metre radius)
- Smoke/vape free areas will be signed (where possible) and promoted in DNA materials.
- A designated smoking/vaping permitted area is located outside of the fenced area of the Marrara Netball Courts.

Functions

- DNA functions, including social and fundraising events and meetings, held at DNA facilities are to be smoke/vape free.
- DNA functions, including social and fundraising events and meetings, held away from DNA facilities are to be smoke/vape free wherever possible.
- If provided, smokers/vapers may only smoke/vape at outdoor designated smoking/vaping areas and are to dispose of cigarette butts safely before entering facilities.
- Invitations and advertising for functions, meetings and events will be promoted as smoke/vape free.

Policy Promotion

The DNA will promote the smoke/vape free policy regularly by placing non-smoking/vaping signage in prominent locations both indoors and outdoors.

The DNA recognises the importance of educating members, particularly players, of the benefits of implementing a smoke/vape free policy and will endeavour to provide information to assist this process.

Behavioural Expectations

The DNA will ensure the policy is applied to all DNA officials, members and spectators without bias. The DNA requests that officials, members and spectators adhere to the designated smoking/vaping areas.

The DNA requests that officials and members refrain from smoking/vaping while undertaking competition or acting in an official capacity for their club or the Association while in club or Association uniform:

Policy Effective Date
1 June 2023

Policy Review Date
1 June 2025

Policy Authorised By
Darwin Netball Association Management Team



Darwin Netball Association

- Coaches (when coaching, representing the club or while in club or Association uniform)
- Trainers (when training players or while in club or Association uniform)
- Officials (when officiating for the club or while in club or Association uniform)
- Volunteers (when working for the club or while in club or Association uniform)
- Players (when representing the club or while in club or Association uniform)

Non Compliance

All DNA Management Team members will enforce the smoke/vape free policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

- Explanation of the DNA policy and the NT tobacco laws to the person/people concerned, including identification of the areas in which smoking is permitted
- Continued non-compliance with the policy should be handled by at least two committee members who will use their discretion as to the action taken, which may include asking the person/ people to leave the DNA facilities or function.

Non-Compliance Strategy

If a member breaches the Smoke/Vape Free policy DNA will:

- Ensure that the person is aware of the Smoke/Vape Free policy through a DNA representative approaching the person breaching the policy and politely ask them to refrain from smoking and advise/remind them about the Smoke/Vape Free policy.
- If a person continues to breach the policy, then the person will be escorted out of the facility by a DNA representative and/or a senior representative of the club to which the person is associated.
- If the offence does continue, then the offender will be escorted out of the facility by staff and/or a senior club representative.
- Under no circumstances should the Smoke/Vape Free policy be breached, no matter who the offender is.