

GAMBLING HARM PREVENTION POLICY

Washington Park Cricket Club

Our club acknowledges that gambling can negatively affect our community. It can cause harm much earlier than people realise and affect their health, wellbeing, and financial security regardless of how often they gamble.

We are proud to say no to sports betting sponsorship and to commit to the following actions to prevent and reduce gambling harm.

We will:

- refuse to promote special offers from betting or gambling companies
- only show horse or greyhound races on club TVs when nobody under the age of 18 years is present
- hold events and fundraisers at non-racing venues
- find alternatives to casino or racing themed fundraisers like poker nights or big wheels
- limit attendance at casino or race themed fundraisers/events to adults only
- limit attendance at club functions held at pokies venues to adults only
- limit attendance at club functions held at venues with TABs to adults only
- refuse sponsorship or funding from racing venues
- refuse sponsorship or funding from pokies venues
- participate in the annual Love the Game theme round
- watch a Love the Game produced educational video about gambling harm
- share awareness raising key messages about gambling harm via social media or newsletters

Andrew Kindred, Secretary

02/09/2024



Victorian
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Gambling
Foundation



GAMBLING POLICY

Washington Park Cricket Club

1. PURPOSE

This policy outlines our approach for the control and management of gambling activities in our club. The purpose of this Gambling Policy is to ensure that our club takes a “whole of club” approach to preventing and minimising gambling-related harm in our community.

2. RATIONALE

Washington Park Cricket Club (The Club) recognizes the importance of interrupting the normalization of gambling in sport and reducing risk around harm from gambling, particularly for young people. We are committed to ensuring a safe and inclusive club environment, and this policy will help ensure The Club upholds its reputation and understands our role in minimising risk.

This policy should be read and understood in conjunction with our Code of Conduct and any by-laws relating to gambling integrity within our sport.

3. ACTION PLAN

Under this policy The Club commits to the following actions to prevent and reduce gambling harm:

- We will not hold events or fundraisers at horse or greyhound races.
- We will not hold junior functions or events at venues that have sports betting.
- We will not hold junior functions or events at venues that have pokies.
- Horse and/or greyhound races will only be shown on the club TV during senior playing times when people under 18 years of age are not generally present.
- If we hold an event or function for seniors at venues with pokies or sports-betting we will ensure it is away from gambling areas and not require participants to pass entry points to those areas.
- We will provide information for our players to increase awareness and understanding of gambling risk.
- Our club committee will be encouraged to complete online education about gambling harm awareness.
- If we hold fundraisers that are gambling (poker nights, casino-themed, reverse raffles) we will only promote the event to adults.
- We will ensure that hosts or guest speakers at club events and functions are briefed about our club values and gambling policy so it does not normalise gambling when young people are in the room (e.g. asking for a ‘tip’ or talking about the betting odds).
- We will not sanction punters’ clubs or fantasy league teams.



4. POLICY PROMOTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

- A current copy of our club's gambling policy will be available to all members on The Club website.
- Anyone wishing to discuss this policy can contact the Secretary.
- Breaches of the policy will be addressed by The Club Committee.

5. POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed every two years to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

SIGNATURES:

Signed: Chris Gorrie

Club President

Date: September 2024

Signed: Andrew Kindred

Club Secretary

Date: September 2024

Next policy review date is September 2027.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING OUR POLICY:

EMAIL: washingtonparkcc@gmail.com

LOVE THE GAME NOT THE ODDS

An initiative to prevent and
reduce harm from gambling



Victorian
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LOVE THE GAME CHARTER

The Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation's Love the Game Sporting Club Program aims to disrupt the normalisation of gambling in sport, in particular by limiting the exposure of young people to gambling promotion. The program works at all sporting levels, from community to elite, to prevent and reduce gambling harm.

CLUB COMMITMENT

By joining the Love the Game Sporting Club Program, we understand the leadership role our club plays in encouraging balanced lifestyles and strengthening communities.

We accept a shared responsibility for raising awareness of the risks associated with gambling and will actively work to disrupt the normalisation of gambling in sport through our two year commitment to this Charter and through our actions.

Washington Park Cricket Club

Andrew Kindred

Secretary

Charter expiry: 02/09/2026

DISRUPTING GAMBLING IN SPORT

- We will not partner or receive sponsorship (revenue or in-kind) from gambling providers^[1] including gambling venues^[2].
- We will not display gambling promotional material in or around the club, including ground signage^[3].
- We agree that sporting environments should be free from gambling promotion (excluding raffles and trade promotion lotteries) and we will engage key decision makers, such as national and state sporting bodies and local government, in discussions that work towards this goal.
- We will develop and implement a club-specific gambling policy that seeks to address gambling harm and reduce club revenue from gambling.

A HEALTHY AND SAFE CLUB ENVIRONMENT

- We will support and participate in awareness-raising activities including displaying program messages in and around our club and participating in the Love the Game themed round/s.
- We will support our club community by providing education sessions and information about the risks of gambling and actively deter anyone under 18 years of age from participating in any form of gambling.
- If any player or club administrator is concerned about their own or someone else's gambling, we will make every effort to refer them to gambling support services.

SAFER FUNDRAISING, FUNCTIONS AND PRIZES

- Where young people under 18 years of age are present, our club social and fundraising activities will not include any forms of gambling (excluding raffles and trade promotion lotteries).
- We will not provide gambling incentives as player awards or prizes.
- Our club functions will be held in venues that align with our club gambling policy.

OPERATION OF GAMING VENUES

- As an elite club that owns or operates electronic gaming machines, we acknowledge we are uniquely placed to play a leadership role in addressing gambling harm by reducing our reliance on this revenue within an agreed timeframe.
- If we own and operate electronic gaming machines, we will meet best practice standards as outlined in the Venue Best Practice Guide to minimise harm from gambling.

1] Examples of gambling providers includes betting operators (traditional and online), racing industry organisations, casinos, lotto, Keno, etc.

2] Local clubs sponsored by venues that operate pokies are exempt from this clause. These clubs should encourage the venue to contact their local venue support worker and operate under the Venue Best Practice Guide.

3] Signage and advertising space at grounds that is not owned or controlled by the sporting club is exempt.



This charter underpins the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation's Sporting Club Program, supporting clubs to establish healthy and safe environments in relation to gambling.

lovethedgame.vic.gov.au



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