



NEWCASTLE & HUNTER RUGBY UNION

SAFE TRANSPORT POLICY

Rationale

NHRU recognises that:

- It has a duty of care to all visitors involved in association-related activities
- Mixing drugs (including prescription medication) with other drugs or alcohol can seriously affect the ability to drive safely
- Driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs is illegal and hazardous to individuals and the wider community
- Drink driving is one of the main causes of road deaths in Australia
- It takes one hour for each standard drink of alcohol consumed to be broken down by the liver
- It takes considerable time until a person can legally and safely drive home if they have consumed over the recommended levels of alcohol.

Accordingly, the following safe transport policy shall apply for all functions undertaken by the association that involve the serving and/or consumption of alcohol.

General

- Where possible, the association will display standard drink posters / cards to help patrons recognise what standard drinks are and the implications on drink driving.
- Taxi vouchers (where available) and non-alcoholic drinks will be considered as part of raffle prizes and awards.
- Telephone calls will be made free of charge to arrange a taxi (where available) or to call a sober person to provide transport from the association.
- Contact telephone numbers for taxi services (where available) will be clearly displayed in the association.

Bar Staff/Servers of alcohol

Bar staff/servers of alcohol shall:

- Encourage members and visitors to make alternate safe transport arrangements if they are considered to be intoxicated or at risk of exceeding .05 blood alcohol concentration (e.g. free call to a taxi/friend/family)
- Promote low alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks to consumers
- Be provided non-alcoholic drinks and bar food free of charge.

Association Functions/ Rep Programs

- The bus used for the rep program is not to be used to transport members between licensed venues (i.e. not to be used for a pub crawl).
- People who have consumed alcohol are to make alternative safe transport arrangements to get from the bus drop-off to home.

- The committee will pre-order taxis (where available) to arrive at the venue at the conclusion of the function.
- In specific cases, where a designated driver nominated by the association has accepted the responsibility to drive others home safely, the association will provide non-alcoholic drinks and/or bar food free of charge (or passengers will be encouraged to pay for these for their driver).
- For selected functions held at a hotel or similar, the association will arrange for reduced-rate rooms for members to encourage them stay over rather than drive while potentially intoxicated.
- Taxi companies (where available) will be provided with association function details for potential business on the night.
- Taxi company phone number(s) (where available) will be printed on the function invitation / flyers.
- The MC for the function/committee will advise attendees that the association is a Good Sport accredited association, communicate the safe transport options and regularly remind attendees to drink and behave responsibly.

Committee Members, Members, Players and Officials

Those attending association activities where they are planning on drinking alcohol are encouraged to:

- Make alternative transport arrangements to get to and from the activity safely.
- Plan ahead and arrange overnight accommodation.
- Share a taxi (where available) with friends.
- Catch public transport (where available).
- Ride with a driver who hasn't been drinking alcohol or taking drugs.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant to association operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Signature

Signed: _____	Signed: _____
Association President	Association General Manager
Date: _____	Date: _____

Next policy review date is **01/01/17**