



**UOW  
PULSE**

UniClubs

# Alcohol and Drug Policy

<b>Date approved:</b>	11/01/2024	<b>Date Policy will take effect:</b>	Immediately	<b>Date of Next Review:</b>	Jan 2026
<b>Approved by:</b>	Head of Student Engagement and Marketing				
<b>Responsible Unit:</b>	UniClubs				
<b>Supporting documents, procedures &amp; forms of this policy:</b>	Guidelines on the Use and Management of Alcohol at University Functions <a href="#">Student Engagement Code of Conduct</a> University of Wollongong Student Code of Conduct UOW Pulse Code of Conduct UOW Pulse Risk Management Process UOW Pulse Work Health Safety Policy				
<b>References &amp; Legislation:</b>	Work Health and Safety Act 2011 Liquor Act 2007 Crimes Act 1900				
<b>Audience:</b>	University of Wollongong Students				
<b>Expiry Date of Policy (if applicable):</b>	In place until reviewed				

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## 1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose is to outline UOW Pulse's commitment to a safe and healthy environment in relation to the use, consumption and service of alcohol within our programs and to minimise alcohol-related harm to the individual whilst preserving the good reputation of UOW, other UOW clubs or societies and UOW Pulse.

## 2 Definitions

Word/Term	Definition
<b>Prohibited drug</b>	Those drugs which are prohibited according to Schedule 1 of the Drug Misuse and Trafficking Act 1985. Examples include amphetamines, cannabis, heroin, methadone and LSD.
<b>Medically prescribed drugs</b>	Drugs which are prescribed by a medical practitioner and issued by a pharmacist to the intended person.
<b>Over the counter drugs</b>	Drugs which can be purchased legally i.e. chemist store.
<b>Competitive UOW sports clubs</b>	Sports clubs representing UOW in external competitions.

## 3 Scope

- 3.1 Through this policy, expectations are established of club executives and club members (both student and non-student). This policy applies to all participants at events run by clubs or societies affiliated with UOW Pulse, or participants attending club events either on or off campus.

## 4 Policy Principles

- 4.1 UOW Pulse aims to create a climate that enables individuals to make a choice and acknowledge that UOW clubs or societies may want to incorporate alcohol into their events but should be doing so in a way that:
- minimises alcohol-related harm to an individual
  - minimises alcohol-related damage to property
  - preserve the reputation of UOW and the UniClubs program
- 4.2 Being affected by alcohol or drugs in a club environment can seriously compromise the health, safety and welfare of club or society members, and others at the event. It can also impair an individual's ability to perform their club duties competently.
- 4.3 Inappropriate or unlawful conduct arising out of alcohol or drug use may expose the club or society and its Executives to legal liability.



## 5 Responsibilities of UOW clubs

- 5.1 Every UniClub Executive has a duty of care in the health and safety of themselves and others at a club event or in a club environment. This requirement ensures that their performance and actions are not impeded by the use of drugs (either legal or illegal) or alcohol.
- 5.2 It is a requirement that UniClub Executives and/or UniClub Members who are running events do not operate under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 5.3 Club or society events or activities must at all times comply with State and Commonwealth laws, University policies and UOW Pulse policies
- 5.4 General requirements of club or society activities include:
  - i. UniClub members or participants at a club or society event that are under the age of 18 must not consume alcohol.
  - ii. UniClub members must not be pressured to drink alcohol.
  - iii. Non-alcoholic drinks must be available at any event where alcohol is being served. They must be at a lower price than the alcoholic beverages and water must be available and free.
  - iv. Drinking alcohol and becoming intoxicated must not be the primary objective of the club or society event or activity.
  - v. There must be food available at events where alcohol is being served.
  - vi. UniClub members must not attend a club or society events with the primary aim of becoming intoxicated and those that become intoxicated are not to continue drinking.
  - vii. All event attendees are subject to the same rights and responsibilities as UniClub members under this policy.
  - viii. Activity organisers must make every reasonable attempt to ensure the safety of attendees at club or society events. This includes not allowing intoxicated attendees to continue drinking, assisting members to get home safely and providing general assistance where required.
- 5.5 When holding a club or society event there should be one nominated sober officer per 50 event attendees. The sober officer must have a zero limit BAC (blood alcohol concentration). The sober officer must be a current UniClubs member.
- 5.6 If alcohol is being served at a club or society event on campus by an affiliated UniClub, it must be served at a licensed venue (eg. the UniBar) or by the recommended university caterer (eg. [Aspire](#)). No alcohol is to be served by external caterers without prior written approval from UOW Pulse.
- 5.7 No UOW club or society, or its members must possess, distribute, sell or consume prohibited drugs at any club or society event either on or off campus
- 5.8 UniClub Executives must not be impaired in their ability to perform their duties safely and competently, by alcohol or drugs including medically prescribed or over the counter drugs.
- 5.9 In the case that a UniClub member who is organising an event is required to take a prescribed drug that could place a risk to the event, it will be included in the Risk Assessment to ensure side effects do not impact on their performance. Affected event organisers may be relocated or released from duty if it is deemed to be in their best interest and that of the club or society.

## 6 Consequences for UniClubs of Breaching this Policy

- 6.1 UOW Pulse considers any breach of this policy as a serious matter and may lead to disciplinary action and dismissal. Consequences include:
  - i. loss of access to Club Funding and/or facility subsidies
  - ii. removal as member of the club or society
  - iii. dis-affiliating the club or society from UOW Pulse.
- 6.2 Please refer to the *Student Engagement Code of Conduct* for more information on the contravention of the policy of which the Drug and Alcohol policy is a part of.



- 6.3 If the matter is serious enough, UOW Pulse may refer the matter to the UOW Complaints Management Centre. Where appropriate, UOW Pulse may recommend, or direct a club or society participant to attend drug and alcohol counselling.

## 7 Legal and Policy Framework

- 7.1 This policy exists in conjunction with:
- i. State and Commonwealth legislation
  - ii. UOW Student Code of Conduct
  - iii. Student Engagement Code of Conduct
  - iv. UOW policies including, but not limited to [Guidelines on the Use and Management of Alcohol at University Functions](#)

## 8 Version Control Table and Change History

Version Control	Date Effective	Approved By	Amendment
1	29/11/2018	Peter Doran, UniLife Manager	Policy Created
2	7/12/2020		Changing/Removing "UniLife" from policy
3	11/01/2024	April Alexander, Head of Student Engagement and Marketing	Updating dates on the first page. Checking links are current. Updating terminology to be more consistent throughout.