

Going Completely **Smokefree**

A FACT SHEET FOR SPORTING CLUBS

COMPLETELY SMOKEFREE = NO SMOKING ANYWHERE AT THE VENUE

A completely smokefree venue provides the best protection for players, coaches, club members and the supporters from exposure to dangerous secondhand smoke. It also sends the positive message that smoking and sport and recreation do not go together and provides a great example for young people involved in your club. It helps to reduce the social norm of smoking so that children don't see it as something that they should do when they become adults, reduces exposure to secondhand smoke, reduces cigarette butt litter and helps support smokers to quit and stay quit.

Being completely smokefree means that smoking is not allowed anywhere at the venue. In venues that have a defined fence or boundary this may be relatively simple to communicate with signage at regular points around the venue, and in those areas where smoking used to happen such as near the clubhouse and outdoor viewing areas.

Venues that do not have a defined boundary will need to communicate where the smokefree policy applies. The policy should cover **all areas that any person is likely to be whilst participating in club activities**. This includes areas used by volunteers, spectators, participants and officials. Signage should be used to make it clear that areas are smokefree, and other communication activities used to raise awareness.

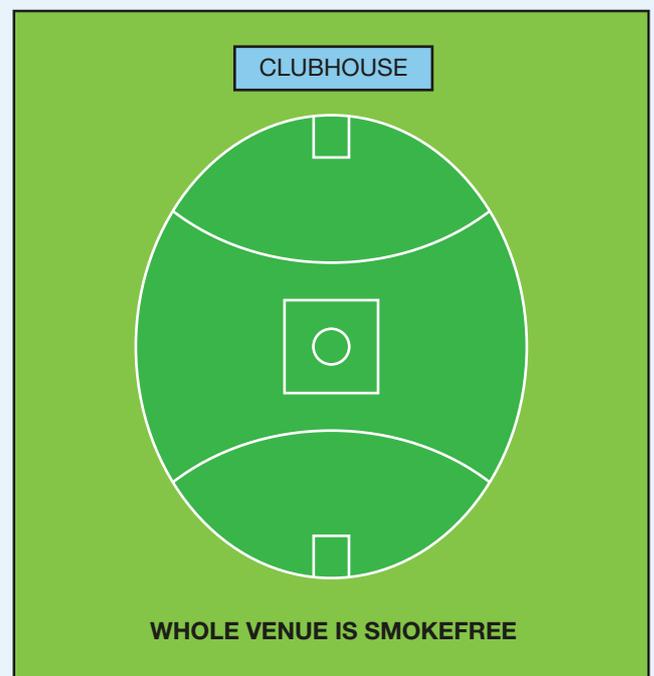
WHERE SHOULD SMOKERS GO?

Smokers will need to leave the venue to smoke. The club can suggest a safe area outside the venue to smoke. Ideally this area would not be visible to other patrons.

BUTT BINS

Cigarette butt bins should be removed from the venue. Clubs should consider speaking to the local council to see if cigarette butt bins can be installed to help prevent any litter issues in areas outside the venue where smokers are directed to smoke.

Football oval perimeter fencing



Smoking permitted outside venue unless otherwise stated

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SIGNAGE

Signage should be installed at regular intervals around the venue letting all patrons know that the venue is completely smokefree. The [resources and signage](#) area of the Smokefree Sports website contains a number of signage templates available for free download.

ENFORCEMENT

Good communication is key to avoiding enforcement issues. If patrons are aware of the smokefree policy they are unlikely to smoke. If someone is smoking, approaching them and asking them if they are aware of the new bans, explaining the smokefree policy and letting them know where they can and can't smoke is normally all that is required. If a smoker does not wish to comply that's unfortunate but okay. Remember, your club is still smokefree even if a small number of people choose to smoke where they are not allowed. Over time, a cultural change will ensure your venue remains completely smokefree.

WHERE TO NEXT?

The next step for a completely smokefree club is to communicate the smokefree policy. This should include making sure there is adequate signage and advance notice of the new policy – for example through club newsletters and social media sites - and providing resources such as Quit flyers and pamphlets in the clubhouse. The [Smokefree Sports Implementation Framework](#) provides some guidance on how to achieve this. Think about having large signage at the entrance when the policy comes into effect. If volunteers are collecting entrance fees have them explain the policy to all as they enter, or even set up a quitting group so smokers can have the support and encouragement of other club members in their quit attempts. Regular reminders are also important especially in the early stages of the new policy.

