

RESPONDING TO ILLEGAL DRUGS AT YOUR CLUB

Reference for the club officials

1. INITIAL RESPONSE

- Always focus on the safety and welfare of those involved
- Follow the club's illegal drugs policy or duty of care procedures
- Seek medical attention when required
- Contact and include the club's welfare representative or club official as soon as possible

Safety first!

- Make an assessment of the situation
- If there is a risk of the person experiencing an overdose, losing consciousness, or harming themselves or someone else:
 - Stay calm.
 - Reassure them if they are distressed that the effects will wear off.
 - Call an ambulance if the person is having chest pains, difficulty breathing, or is unconscious (non-responsive). Calling an ambulance does not have to involve the police, unless you think it is necessary.
 - Ask others around you for help, you don't need to do this on your own.
 - You might need to contact the person's emergency contact, parent or guardian to advise them of the situation and/or arrange safe transport home.

If there are drugs present, advise police and ask for advice, and record details in your incident register, as per your club's policy.

2. INVESTIGATING A CONCERN OR INCIDENT

- Only once the safety and welfare of everyone involved has been established should the club official begin exploring the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident.
- This process should be conducted fairly and privately.
- The club official should recommend an appropriate action based on the context of the situation and the guiding principles set out in the club's illegal drugs policy.

The aim of the investigation is to provide the club committee with a thorough understanding of the event and the meaning it has for the people involved.

Depending on what is learned in this process, the club may decide to take further actions based on its illegal drugs policy.

Get the facts

- Establish your own understanding of what has happened.
- Check your club's policy if you need to.
- If the matter is about a particular substance, inform yourself about its effects and risks to aid in the discussion with the person(s) subject to an investigation.

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