



Altona Hockey Club

SUN SMART POLICY OF THE ALTONA HOCKEY CLUB INC.

Registration No. A397
ABN 21 110 938 232
Updated 16th April 2003



Rationale

The Altona Hockey Club Inc., Sugargum Drive, Altona (or AHC) has as a primary concern the health of club members with this being a paramount contributor to the success of our sides and the general enjoyment of sport for our players.

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world, with two out of three people experiencing some form of skin cancer during their lifetime. It is acknowledged that skin cancer is a preventable disease.

Accordingly, the following awareness and preventative policy has been developed by the AHC to improve the health of all concerned.

The AHC acknowledges its leadership role in the sport of Hockey and aims to be a good role model for affiliated clubs and the wider community. The move to Sun Smart complements the club's desire to create a safer family and community environment. The AHC believes that such an environment and image will be advantageous in attracting new members and positively promoting our sport and the club to the community.

Who is affected by this Policy?

The policy applies to all members, administrators, officials, coaches, players, visitors and volunteers of the Altona Hockey Club Inc.

Timing

This policy is effective from **16th March 2007**.

Functions

Where possible, outdoor events and training times held at the nominated address will be scheduled outside the hours of 11am and 3 pm (daylight savings time).

Shade

The AHC will maximise the use of natural shade provided from buildings, trees, and other structures. Officials, spectators and players are encouraged to seek available shade during high UV periods whilst not involved in training or matches. Individuals will not be discouraged from bringing their own shade structures to club events if they so choose. Players and officials will be encouraged to make use of the dug-outs during game intervals as a means of providing protective shade.

Clothing

With the nature of the sport of hockey, it is unsafe to have sun protective clothing with long sleeves as part of the uniform as the stick may get caught in the sleeves. Also, hard brimmed hats are illegal from a safety perspective. Players may choose to wear hockey association approved 'bucket' hats or soft foam visors whilst playing. However, spectators are encouraged to wear wide brimmed or legionnaires hats and sunglasses to protect the eyes and long sleeve collared clothing whilst watching events. AHC does offer a range of sun protective clothing for purchase.



Sunscreens

AHC will promote the use of SPF 30+ or higher sunscreens. Prior to training or playing in peak UV periods, players and spectators will be encouraged to apply sunscreen to exposed body parts.

Education

The AHC will promote Sun Smart principles and behaviour through the various communication channels – notice boards, email, newsletters, web site. Skin cancer awareness will also be promoted. Board members, coaching staff and conscientious players will help to influence the acceptance and implementation of the policy and will act as suitable Sun Smart role models.

Litigation

AHC acknowledges its legal responsibilities to address the issue of sun protection for players, officials and spectators. Although litigation is in its infancy, it is a consideration for the AHC Board.

Junior Sport

The AHC requires that all coaches and managers encourage players to consider their options in respect to their Sun Smart options.

Policy Review

The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. This will ensure that the policy remains current and practical.

Dated: 16th March 2007

Reviewed: Policy to be reviewed annually

For and on Behalf of its Members.
The Altona Hockey Club Inc. Board