



GUIDANCE

Alcohol and Smoking

WFDF 2024 World Team Disc Golf Championship

Mundaring, Perth, Australia

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Alcohol and Smoking Laws

Australia has specific laws around the consumption of alcohol and smoking, and it's important for international visitors to be aware of these to avoid fines or legal issues. Additionally, both the **Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)** and the **World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF)** have specific rules regarding alcohol and smoking during events to ensure fair play and a positive environment for all participants.

Alcohol

Legal Drinking Age

- In Australia, the legal drinking age is **18 years**.

Consumption in Public Spaces (Street Drinking)

- It is illegal to consume alcohol in public spaces such as parks, beaches, and streets unless in a designated licensed area. This practice, often referred to as **street drinking**, can result in fines if caught. Always check for signage indicating whether alcohol consumption is permitted in the area.

Licensed Venues

- Many venues, including the **Mundaring Sporting Club**, have licensed areas where alcohol can be consumed. Ensure you drink responsibly and adhere to the venue's rules regarding alcohol consumption.

Responsible Service of Alcohol

- Australian licensed venues are required to follow the **Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA)** guidelines, which include not serving alcohol to intoxicated persons or minors.

Drink Driving (Driving Under the Influence - DUI)

Australia has strict drink-driving laws to ensure road safety, and penalties are severe.

- **Legal Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC):** The legal BAC limit is **0.05%** for fully licensed drivers. Learner and probationary drivers (P-plate drivers) are required to have a BAC of **zero**.
- **Random Breath Testing (RBT):** Police regularly conduct random breath tests across Australia and have the right to stop any driver and request a breath test at any time. This is common practice, especially during weekends and festive events.

- **Penalties:** Penalties for drink driving can include immediate loss of your driver's license, hefty fines, and, in severe cases, jail time. For international visitors, there could also be complications regarding your travel visa if you are convicted of an offense.
- **Designated Driver:** If you plan to drink, it's safest to arrange a designated driver, use a taxi, or book a ride-share service like **Uber**. Public transport is also a safe option for getting around without the risk of drink driving.
- **Alcohol Limit and Tolerance:** Australia's drink-driving laws are strictly enforced, so even small amounts of alcohol can push you over the legal limit. It's important to understand that alcohol tolerance varies, and just because you feel fine doesn't mean your BAC is under the limit. Err on the side of caution and avoid driving after consuming any alcohol.

Smoking

Australia has strict regulations regarding smoking in public places, and Western Australia is no exception. To ensure compliance with local laws, here's what you need to know:

- **Smoking Prohibited in Enclosed Public Spaces:** Smoking is banned in enclosed public areas, including restaurants, bars, cafes, and workplaces. This extends to indoor sections of venues and outdoor areas that may be partially enclosed.
- **Outdoor Smoking Restrictions:** Many outdoor areas are also smoke-free, including parks, playgrounds, public transport stops, and within close proximity to building entrances. Always look for designated smoking areas, which are clearly marked, and only smoke in these permitted areas.
- **Penalties for Smoking Violations:** Fines may apply if you are caught smoking in prohibited areas, so it's important to follow local regulations. Public venues often have signs indicating where smoking is not allowed, and event staff can help direct you to smoking zones.
- **Tobacco Product Sales:** Be aware that Australia has strict rules on the sale of tobacco products. Cigarettes and other tobacco products are significantly more expensive compared to many other countries, and they are sold in plain packaging with graphic health warnings. Tobacco products are only sold in specific licensed locations, such as tobacconists and designated sections of convenience stores.
- **Minimum Age:** The legal age to purchase tobacco in Australia is **18**. Make sure to carry identification if you plan to purchase any tobacco products.

PDGA and WFDF Alcohol and Smoking Rules

Both the **Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA)** and the **World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF)** have specific rules regarding alcohol and smoking during events to promote fair play, athlete well-being, and a positive environment for all participants.

PDGA Alcohol and Smoking Rules

Alcohol

- **During Play:** According to the PDGA Official Rules of Disc Golf, the use of alcohol is prohibited during play in divisions and events where players are younger than the legal age or when prohibited by law or the tournament director. Consumption of alcohol during play can result in penalties, including disqualification.
- **Player Conduct:** Players are expected to maintain professional conduct. Excessive drinking or intoxication during PDGA-sanctioned events is not permitted and can lead to disciplinary action.
- **Event Policies:** Always check the specific event's policies regarding alcohol, as some events may have stricter rules or may be held in venues where alcohol is entirely prohibited.

For more details, refer to the PDGA Competition Manual for Disc Golf Events:

<https://www.pdga.com/rules/competition-manual-disc-golf-events>

Smoking

- **Smoking Restrictions:** The PDGA imposes restrictions on smoking during competitive play. Players are not allowed to smoke tobacco products, use electronic cigarettes, or consume marijuana during their round. This includes all smoking and vaping devices.
- **Penalties:** Violations of the smoking policy can result in warnings, penalty throws, or disqualification, depending on the severity and recurrence of the offense.
- **Respect for Others:** These rules are in place to promote health, safety, and enjoyment for all players and spectators. Always be considerate of others and adhere to both PDGA rules and local laws regarding smoking.

For the complete PDGA smoking policy, visit: <https://www.pdga.com/rules/competition-manual/section-3>

WFDF Alcohol and Smoking Rules

Alcohol

- **During Play:** The WFDF discourages the consumption of alcohol during competitions. Players are expected to maintain professionalism and abstain from alcohol consumption during games and official event activities.
- **Event Policies:** Specific events may have their own rules regarding alcohol, especially when youth players are involved or if local laws prohibit alcohol consumption at the venue. Always check the event's player handbook or code of conduct for detailed information.
- **Player Conduct:** Excessive alcohol consumption leading to inappropriate behaviour is against WFDF's Code of Conduct. Such behaviour can result in disciplinary actions, including warnings, suspensions, or expulsion from the event.

Smoking

- **Smoking Restrictions:** WFDF promotes a healthy environment for all participants. Smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes and vaping devices, is generally prohibited on the playing fields and in event areas where it may affect other participants.
- **Designated Smoking Areas:** If smoking is permitted by local laws, there may be designated smoking areas away from competition and spectator zones. Players and spectators who wish to smoke should use these areas to avoid impacting others.
- **Youth Protection:** At events involving youth players, stricter smoking bans may be in place to protect young athletes from exposure to tobacco products.

Code of Conduct

- **Player Responsibilities:** Players must adhere to WFDF's Code of Conduct, which emphasizes respect, fair play, and compliance with all rules and regulations, including those related to alcohol and smoking.
- **Penalties:** Violations of these policies can result in penalties ranging from warnings to disqualification, depending on the severity of the offense.

For more detailed information, refer to WFDF's official policies and rules:

- **WFDF Code Conduct Policy:** https://wfdf.sport/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/wfdf_conduct_policy.pdf

- - **WFDF Rules of Ultimate:** <https://rules.wfdf.org/>

Note for International Visitors

If you are a smoker or plan to consume alcohol during your visit to Western Australia, it's a good idea to familiarize yourself with the local laws before arriving to avoid fines and ensure compliance with regulations. Additionally, always adhere to the PDGA and WFDF rules during events to maintain a respectful and professional environment. When in doubt, ask the Tournament LOC for assistance.