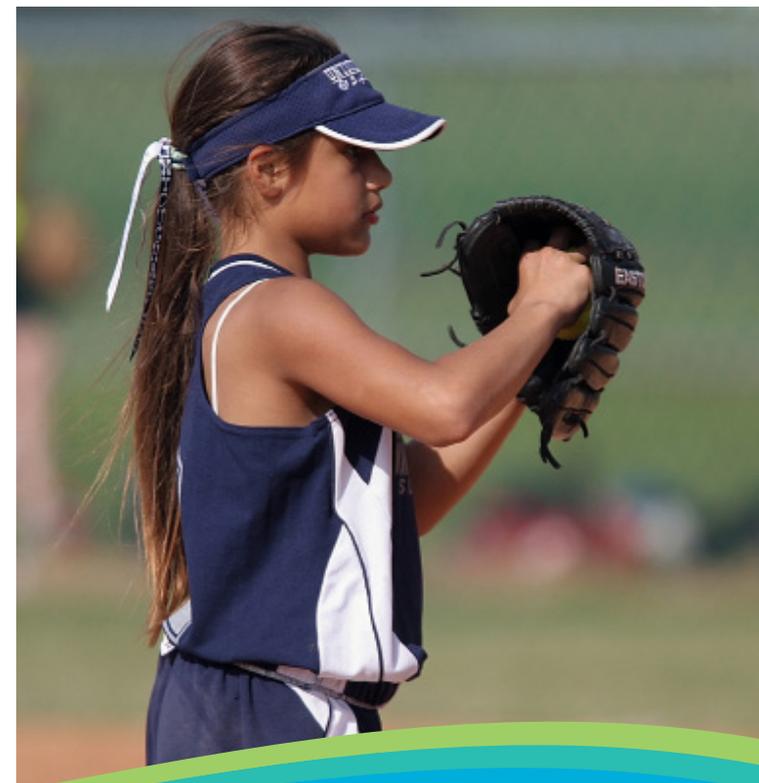


## The benefits of Smokefree sports clubs

- **Aucklanders want Smokefree sports clubs.**  
Around 94% of Aucklanders would be more likely or as likely to visit sports fields and sports events if they are Smokefree.
- **It creates a healthier and family-friendly environment.**  
There is no safe level of second-hand smoke, even outdoors.
- **It protects our children.**  
Kids copy what they see. They are less likely to start smoking if they don't see adults smoking.
- **It improves performance**  
Smoking has negative effects on health, physical fitness and athletic performance.
- **It helps people quit.**  
Exposure to smoking can trigger cravings and make it harder for those trying to quit.
- **It reduces litter.**  
It's better for the environment and means your sports fields won't be covered in cigarette butts.

## Your checklist for a Smokefree sports club:

- Put Smokefree signs in highly visible areas outside.
- Remove ashtrays, matches and lighters.
- Develop a Smokefree policy and get it signed off by your club committee or board.
- Let members know the club is Smokefree and ask them to show their support.
- Identify members to champion your Smokefree policy on and off the field.
- Promote your Smokefree outdoor areas face-to-face, on social media, via public announcements and through other channels.



This guide was prepared by Cancer Society Auckland Northland as part of our work towards Smokefree Aotearoa 2025.

For more information,  
email [smokefree@akcansoc.org.nz](mailto:smokefree@akcansoc.org.nz)

# Smokefree Sports Clubs

Your guide to a Smokefree sports clubs



## Tips for a Smokefree Sports Club

**Smokefree Signs:** Let people know your outdoor areas are Smokefree. Order Smokefree signs from Auckland Council: [smokefreesigns@bravedesign.co.nz](mailto:smokefreesigns@bravedesign.co.nz)

**Face-to-Face:** Talk with members, coaches, and officials about why you are Smokefree.

**Develop a Smokefree Policy:** It provides a clear message for players, coaches, managers and supporters.

**Remove ashtrays, matches and lighters:** These can be interpreted as a sign that it's okay to smoke.

**Make announcements at events:** Remind people that your outdoor areas are Smokefree.

**Promote your Smokefree outdoor areas:** Use club events, social media, your website, and newsletters.

**Inform visiting clubs:** Ask them to respect your Smokefree outdoor areas.

**Support people to quit:** Provide resources for club members and whānau who want to quit smoking. You can find these at [www.quit.org.nz](http://www.quit.org.nz) or 0800 778 778.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Do we have to go Smokefree?

Yes. All Auckland Council-owned parks, sports grounds and facilities are Smokefree. Smokefree requirements will be included in all new and renewed council leases for sports clubs.

### Can we have designated smoking areas?

Auckland Council's Smokefree policy does not allow smoking anywhere on sports fields and this extends to all outdoor areas around sports clubs.

Having a completely Smokefree sports club is easier to manage, whereas designated areas can be difficult to police and may not comply with lease conditions.

### What about vaping or e-cigarettes?

Making areas vape-free as well as Smokefree provides a clear and easy rule. However, at this stage Auckland Council does not require sports clubs to be vape-free.

*“Having our outdoor areas Smokefree protects players, tamariki and visitors. It was real easy to do and we had a lot of support .”*

- Italia Tipelu, Netball Manurewa

A Smokefree sports club is good for the health and wellbeing of your players, members and whānau.

Auckland Council now requires all sports fields to be Smokefree as part of its commitment to a Smokefree Aotearoa by 2025. A Smokefree clause will now be included in sports club leases.

Read on for tips to help your club become Smokefree.

