Department of Health

health

Outdoor smoking ban at sporting venues during underage sporting events

Tobacco Control Section – Department of Health



Department of Health

New outdoor smoking bans

Commencing 1 April 2014

Smoking will be banned at the following outdoor public areas:

- children's playground equipment
- skate parks
- swimming pool complexes
- sporting venues during organised underage sporting events.

Reasons for the new bans

Banning smoking in areas frequented by children and young people aims to reduce:

- provide children and young people with a healthy, smoke-free environment in which to play
- limit exposure to the harmful effects of tobacco smoke (secondhand smoke)
- reduce the normalcy and social acceptability of smoking behaviours
- support smokers who are trying to quit and those trying to cut down.

There is strong public support for the bans.

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Smoking ban at outdoor sporting venues

Smoking will be banned within 10 metres of an outdoor public sporting venue during:

- an organised underage sporting event
- a training session to prepare for an organised underage sporting event
- breaks or intervals in play during the event or training session.

This will include outdoor dining and drinking areas within the 10 metre smoke-free area.

What is a sporting venue?

Sporting venue includes:

- a playing field
- a track
- an arena
- a court or rink
- any permanently or temporarily erected public seating at the venue
- any seating, marshalling area, warm-up area, podium or other part of the venue reserved for competitors and officials
- any part of the venue used to conduct the actual organised underage sporting event.

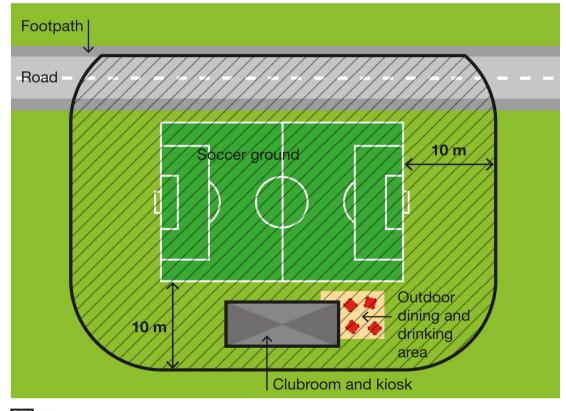
Exemptions

The ban does not apply:

- if there is no organised sporting event underway
- to a person at a residential premises
- to a person in a motor vehicle that is driving or being driven past the sporting venue
- to a person in an area that is separated from the sporting venue by a road.

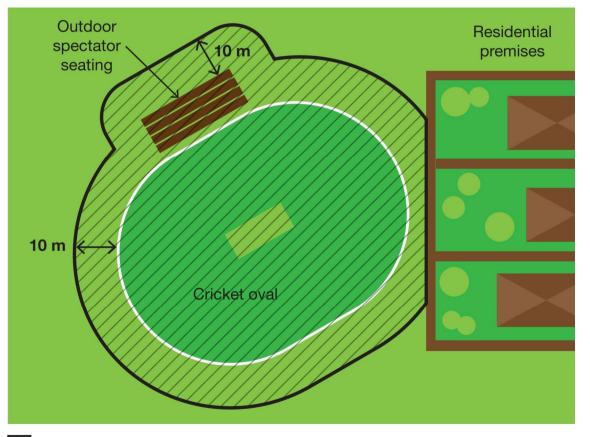
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Examples – where does the ban apply?



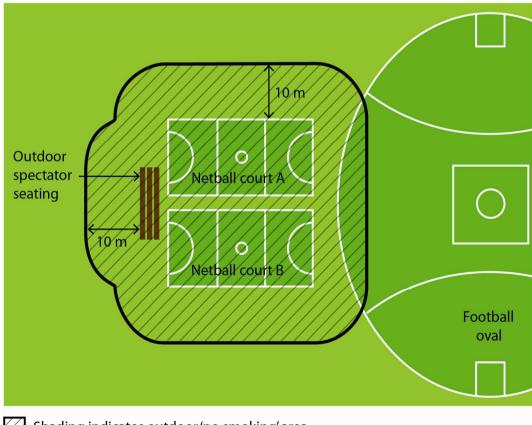
Shading indicates outdoor 'no smoking' area

Examples – where does the ban apply?



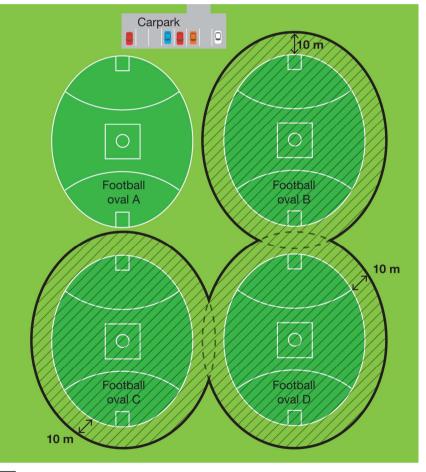
Shading indicates outdoor 'no smoking' area

Examples - where does the ban apply?



Shading indicates outdoor 'no smoking' area

Examples - where does the ban apply?



Shading indicates outdoor 'no smoking' area

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What is considered an underage sporting event?

An organised underage sporting event is a sporting event:

- planned in advance
- organised or intended for, or predominantly participated in by, persons under the age of 18 years
- is conducted according to established rules by a professional or amateur sporting body or by an educational institution
- may be a one-off event or part of a series of events.

Examples

An organised underage sporting event	Not an organised underage sporting event
A Little Athletics meet	An open netball game where some of the players are minors
An interschool/school sporting event participated in by people in their final years of secondary school, some of whom may be over the age of 18	An open-age football match in which most of the players are over the age of 18
An underage football match run by regional football league	An informal or impromptu sporting activity involving minors at an outdoor public sporting venue

Compliance with the ban

- Sporting venue staff, operators and volunteers are **not** expected to enforce the ban and are not empowered to do so.
- You and staff can raise awareness of the bans by providing access to promotional resources.
- Voluntary compliance is expected to occur through a public education and awareness campaign and strong community support.
- Council inspectors will have power to enforce the ban. The bans will have an education focus.
- Inspectors may not be available to respond to every complaint.

Resources to promote the bans

Posters, brochures and palm cards

Order online http://www.health.vic.gov.au/tobaccoreforms/



Signs

Email: tobacco.policy@health.vic.gov.au

