

NT: SMOKING AND VAPING LAW REQUIREMENTS



Smoke-free laws in the Northern Territory have been extended to cover the use of E-cigarettes/vapes.

That means that anywhere smoking is banned, vaping is also banned.¹

It's expected that everyone is aware of - and complies with - smoking/vaping laws.

Sporting clubs are also encouraged to develop a smoke-free and vape-free policy, banning smoking and vaping at all sporting events.

Having a smoke-free and vape-free sporting club can help you comply with your obligations to take reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of employees, volunteers and visitors to the venue.²

- In the Northern Territory, The Tobacco Control Act 2002 regulates the sale/promotion of tobacco and where smoking and vaping is permitted.³

SMOKING AND VAPING BANS

Smoking and vaping are banned at educational facilities, entrances (within 2 metres of a door or window), outdoor public venues, food service areas and outdoor eating and drinking areas.²

- Licensed premises can only operate an outdoor smoking and vaping area if they meet strict requirements – you will need to apply for an outdoor smoking areas certificate³ and have a smoking management plan in place.⁴

- An owner/occupier can declare their premises (including outdoor areas) as a smoke-free and vape-free area – this is called a 'voluntarily declared area' and requires the owner/occupier to prepare a smoke-free area plan.^{1,5}

MANAGING SMOKING AND VAPING AT YOUR CLUB

It is recommended you develop a policy or procedure so staff, operators or volunteers know how to deal with someone smoking/vaping in a banned area.

- The occupier (the person in control of the outdoor eating and drinking area/premises) is responsible for maintaining the smoke-free and vape-free area – if a person is found to be smoking/vaping, both the occupier and the person committing the offence can be fined.²
- If smoking/vaping occurs in a smoke-free and vape-free area you may not always be liable – for example, if you can demonstrate that you were unaware smoking/vaping was occurring.³

The prescribed 'No smoking/no vaping' signage needs to be displayed at smoke-free and vape-free areas.

- Signage needs to be displayed to clearly identify a non-smoking and non-vaping area.⁵
- Be aware that penalties can be issued if signage is not displayed.³

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TOBACCO VENDING MACHINES:

Tobacco vending machines are not permitted if your liquor licensed premises allow minors (a person under the age of 18 years old) on the premises, or if people under 18 are allowed to enter when supervised by a parent or guardian.¹

- There can only be a max of 1 tobacco vending machine per area and appropriate signage must be displayed.⁵
- E-cigarettes/vapes can only be purchased from pharmacies and are subject to the same restrictions as tobacco.⁶

Further Information:

For more information and smoke free resources call the Smoke Free Hotline: 1800 888 564

Smoking laws and businesses

<https://nt.gov.au/industry/hospitality/smoking-laws-and-businesses>

Outdoor smoking areas certificate

<https://ablis.business.gov.au/service/nt/certificate-for-outdoor-smoking-area/46223>

Alcohol and other drugs: health professionals

<https://health.nt.gov.au/professionals/alcohol-and-other-drugs/tobacco>

Tobacco Control Act 2002

<https://legislation.nt.gov.au/Legislation/TOBACCO-CONTROL-ACT-2002>

'No Smoking and No Vaping' signage:

[Northern Territory Smoking Signs - N.T. Tobacco Control Act 2002 signage](#)

Smoke-free Policy

https://health.nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/976633/smoke-free-policy.pdf

Smoking or vaping at your venue

[Smoking or vaping at your venue | NT.GOV.AU](#)

Tobacco Licenses

[Tobacco licences | NT.GOV.AU](#)

References:

1. Northern Territory Government. Smoke Free Policy. [Updated 2025 January 28, cited 2025 July 24]. Available from: https://health.nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/976633/smoke-free-policy.pdf.
2. National Occupational Health & Safety Commission. Guidance note on the elimination of environmental tobacco smoke in the workplace. 2003.
3. Tobacco Control Act 2002. Available from: [Northern Territory Legislation](#). [Cited 2025 July 24].
4. Northern Territory Government. Smoking laws and businesses 2020. [Cited 2025 July 24]. Available from: <https://nt.gov.au/industry/hospitality/law-and-management/smoking-laws-and-businesses>
5. Northern Territory Government. Smoking or vaping at your venue. [Cited 2025 July 24]. Available from: [Smoking or vaping at your venue | NT.GOV.AU](#)
6. Northern Territory Government. Electronic cigarettes 2020. [Cited 2025 July 24]. Available from: [Smoking | NT.GOV.AU](#)