

APF DRUG AND ALCOHOL FAQ

1. What are the APF requirements under the drug and alcohol policy?

Parachuting activities must not be conducted by any individual while deemed to be impaired by drugs or alcohol. OR 6.2.3 (b) [here](#).

Impaired/Impairment – Being in a state where one’s judgement, decisions or actions are influenced by the presence of a substance or a specific condition, or being in an altered mental, physical or emotional state. Impairment does not need to be proven and assessment by a Drop Zone Safety Officer (DZSO) or Safety and Training Officer (STO) is sufficient. The presence of a drug or alcohol in a person’s system (any positive test result) will be considered being impaired. Any Member who is observed to be acting in a manner that raises reasonable suspicion of alcohol or drug use may be deemed to be impaired by a DZSO or STO.

APF Drug and alcohol policy 2.0 Definitions [here](#).

2. When is an individual deemed to be impaired by drugs or alcohol?

An individual is deemed to be impaired by alcohol or drugs if there is any presence of alcohol or drugs in their system, or they act in a manner that raises reasonable suspicion of alcohol or drug use as assessed by the DZSO or STO.

OR 6.2.3 (c) [here](#).

3. What types of drugs are deemed to impair an individual’s fitness and would exclude them from parachuting?

Any drug, legal or illegal, that can impair ability or judgement by causing drowsiness, blurred vision, confusion, shaking or unsteadiness, affecting coordination and concentration, slowing reaction time or creating mood changes or anxiety.

Medications may have mind and/or physical altering properties that could impair a person’s ability to act safely, and this may result in unsafe acts or decisions in the course of parachuting and skydiving activities. If a member is prescribed medication, or obtains non-prescription medication, from their registered medical practitioner or pharmacist, he/she should ensure the possible side effects of the medication has been discussed. If the medication has the potential to adversely impact on safety, the person must not engage in relevant activities.

APF Drug and alcohol policy 5.2 [here](#).

4. When can an individual be tested?

An individual may be required to undergo a drug and/or alcohol test if:

- There is reasonable suspicion the individual is under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Random testing, selection of individuals performed objectively without prejudice.
- During competitions.
- If there is evidence or possession.
- After involvement in an incident.

APF Drug and alcohol policy 7.1 [here](#).

5. Who can perform drug and alcohol tests?

Drug and alcohol testing will be conducted by Authorised Collectors; however, the results of tests conducted by persons not suitably qualified or authorised may be used as reasonable cause for a test by an Authorised Collector.

Employers, Chief Instructors, Safety Training Officers and CASA may wish to conduct their own scheduled or random drug and alcohol testing of employees or individuals engaging in parachuting.

APF Drug and alcohol policy 7.2 [here](#).

6. What types of drugs are tested?

Illegal drugs (such as cannabis, opiates, and certain types of stimulants) and prohibited substances (such as painkillers and tranquillisers) when used for non-medical purposes.

7. What are the threshold levels for drug and alcohol?

For alcohol testing, APF has set a breath or blood alcohol concentration (BrAC) of 0.000% as the acceptable BrAC when engaged in any parachuting activity.

For other drugs, the APF has set the requirement of a total absence of the presence (zero detection) of any drug (as per Australian Standard AS/ANZ 4308:2008) as the acceptable level when engaged in any parachuting activity.

APF Drug and alcohol policy 7.4 [here](#).

8. What are the consequences of results?

A negative result for a field drug or alcohol test will not be recorded and the person will continue with parachuting activities.

A positive result for a field breath alcohol or drug test or laboratory alcohol or drug test will result in a member being stood down from parachuting activities and may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the APF Misconduct Policy and Procedures Manual or the ASAC Anti-Doping Policy and may expose the member to legal action. Ratings/endorsements/authorisations/approvals may be suspended or cancelled, and repeated transgressions may lead to cancellation.

APF Drug and alcohol policy 7.5 [here](#).

9. Can I refuse a drug and alcohol test?

Any refusal or avoidance to be tested, regardless of the reason, will result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Misconduct Policy and Procedures Manual and will be recorded as a non-negative or positive result.

APF Drug and alcohol policy 7.3 [here](#) and OR 2.1.2 (b) [here](#).

10. Who does the drug and alcohol policy apply to?

Any individual participating or operationally involved in parachuting activities.

Parachuting activities as defined in Regulatory Schedule 50:

Performing or participating in any APF authorised or recognised activities as described in APF Rules and Regulations, including but not limited to parachuting, training, displays, packing, rigging, flying in any aircraft being used for or in connection with parachuting and related activities.

Alcohol must not be consumed in operational areas during operations.

OR 6.2.3 (a) [here](#).