

SOCIAL NETWORK POLICY

Athletes / Coaches / team moms / Parents in the Western Cincinnati Soccer Association (WCSA) have the responsibility to portray the soccer association, their team and ourselves in a positive manner at all times. In recent years, Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, Instagram, snapchat and other social networking sites have increased in popularity and are used by the majority of athletes / coaches / team moms / parents / kids in WCSA.

Athletes / Coaches / team moms / Parents may not be aware that third parties including the media, future employers, other coaches, other players/parents and anyone else can easily access their profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments and posters. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the athletes, coaches, parents and the soccer association. This can be detrimental to an athlete's / coaches / team mom's / parent's future and reputation along with the reputation of WCSA.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include but are not limited to depictions or presentations of the following:

1. Posting

a.) Athletes Posting photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, tobacco, eg., holding cups, cans, shot glasses etc.

b.) Coaches / Team Moms / Parents / Coordinators / Board Members Posting photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, tobacco, eg., holding cups, cans, shot glasses etc, while wearing anything that references WCSA.

2. Posting photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.

3. Posting pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.

4. Using inappropriate or offensive language in any / all comments, videos and other postings. This includes threats of violence and derogatory comments against race and/or gender.

5. Postings being disrespectful, harmful or degrading to any/all coaches, players, team mom's, teammates or WCSA itself.

If an athlete's / coaches / team mom's / parents profile and its contents are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the above behaviors he/she will be subject to one or more of the following penalties:

1) Written warning;

2) Meeting with District Rep / Disciplinary committee / WCSA Board

3) Penalties as determined by the Board for example, suspension or removal from athletic team or association related function.

For your own safety, please keep the following recommendations in mind as you participate in social networking websites:

- a) Set your security settings so that only your friends can view your profile.
- b) You should not post your email, home address, local address, telephone number(s), or other ~~personal information~~ as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, identity theft, etc.
- c) Be aware of who you add as a friend to your site – many people are looking to take advantage of children or to seek connection with children.
- d) Consider how the above behaviors can be reflected in all Facebook applications.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as WCSA. Remember always present a positive image and don't do anything to embarrass yourself, the team, your family or WCSA.

I/We have read, understand and agree to comply with the Social Network Policy as outlined above.

Printed Name

Signature

Date