**Social Media, Use of Video, Photography, and Mobile Phones Guide**

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Rush Cricket Club recognises that social media aids the promotion of cricket. While there are many positives in using social media platforms, there is also the potential for a negative impact.

**Who the guide covers?**

This guide has been developed to advise our members, coaches, mentors, administrators, umpires and scorers, how to engage and participate in social media while being mindful of the rush cricket Club values.

The guide will also outline the regulations for safe use of photographs and videos at events / activities and how it should be managed.

Social media includes but is not limited to Facebook, Messenger, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp, Snapchat, YouTube and forum / discussion boards.

**Using Social Media**

Rush Cricket Club uses online social media platforms to share information, gather feedback and create a dialogue of conversation and promote the activities of the club

Rush Cricket Club Social Media account mediators reserve the right to remove comments or content on their social media platforms that are:

* Offensive or inappropriate obscene, or racist content
* Personal attacks, insults, or threatening language
* Comments that suggest or encourage illegal activity
* At all times, the following regulations and relevant laws are complied with:
* General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
* Copyright and related acts
* Defamation Acts
* Children’s First Act
* Rush Cricket Club Anti-bullying policy
* Rush Cricket Club Code of conduct

Guide for Coaches / Mentors / Administrators / Club Officials / Social media account moderators :

It is important to recognise your responsibility on the internet and social media:

Do not post content that is confidential or private information in relation to players, teams, or the association

Do not engage in conversations that may bring Cricket Ireland, Provincial Unions, clubs or affiliated associations into disrepute

Do not endorse or make public statements that have not been approved and may bring Cricket Ireland, Provincial Unions, clubs, or affiliated associations into disrepute

Keep your personal and your club, Provincial Union, or Cricket Ireland page separate

While some of the youths you work with might see you as a friend and request to be ‘friends’ on your personal social media account(s), it’s strongly encouraged not to accept. While the youth may see this as only being friends, it may not be viewed in the same light by parents or other club members.

Do not post, send, or forward messages that are inappropriate, offensive, nasty or derogatory

Guide for Young People

The internet and social media can be a great way to stay in touch with friends, learn new things and have fun. When you use the internet or social media, here are a couple of things to remember:

If you do not know someone, do not accept them as a ‘friend’ on social media

If you are receiving messages you are worried about, please tell your parents, your club Children’s Officer, or an adult you trust.

Do not post, send, or forward messages that are inappropriate, offensive, nasty or derogatory

Guide for Parent / Guardians

Parents/guardians play a vital role in promoting internet and social media safety to young people. Parents/guardians should:

Know who your child is in contact with online

Talk openly to your child about internet safety and using social media

Remind your child not to accept ‘friends’ or talk to people online they do not know

**Use of Photography/Video**

Rush cricket Club has adopted this policy in relation to the use of images of youth cricketers on its website, social media and in other publications as there have been concerns about the risks posed directly and indirectly to children and young people through the use of photographs on sports websites, social media and other publications. Where possible we will try to use models or illustrations when promoting an activity and avoid the use of the first name and surname of individuals in a photograph. This reduces the risk of inappropriate, unsolicited attention from people within and outside the sport.

Rules to guide the use of photography for a website, social media, or other publications

Ask for parent/guardian written permission of youth (U18) players to take and use their image. It ensures that they are aware that photos/videos are being taken and the way the image is to be used to represent the sport. A parent/guardian consent form could be used, or this could be included as part of the initial membership registration.

If a youth cricketer is named, avoid using their photograph

If a photograph is used, avoid naming the youth cricketer

If any image is used inappropriately, it should be reported to the appropriate person. For example, if an issue arises at club level, it should be reported to the club Designated Liaison Person. If it occurs at Provincial Union level, it should be reported to the Provincial Union Designated Liaison Person. If deemed necessary, it should be reported to the relevant statutory authorities.

Amateur photographers/film/video operators wishing to record an event or practice session should seek approval with the children’s officer or leader of session.

Professional photographers /film/video operators wishing to record an event or practice session should seek approval with the Children’s Officer or event organiser by producing their professional identification for the details to be recorded.

Rush Cricket Club will then:  
Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of content and behaviour

Issue the photographer with identification which must be worn at all times

Keep a record of accreditations

Not allow unsupervised access to athletes or one to one photo sessions at events

Not approve/allow photo sessions outside the events or at a player’s home

Videoing as a coaching aid

Video equipment can be used as a legitimate coaching aid. However, permission should first be obtained from the player and the player’s parent / guardian.

Anyone concerned about any photography taking place at events or training sessions can contact the Children’s Officer or Designated Person and ask them to deal with the matter.

**Use of Mobile Phones**

Mobile phones are often given to young people for security, enabling parents to keep in touch and make sure they are safe. The use of mobile phones allows quick and easy contact, but it is important that mobile phones are not used to cross personal boundaries and cause harm for young people.

Managers / Coaches / Selectors

May use group texts for communication and inform parents of this at the start of the season

It is not appropriate to have constant communication with individual cricketers

Do not use phone in locations such as changing rooms

Young people

If you receive an offensive photo, email, or message, do not reply to it. Save it, make a note of time and date, and inform your parent /guardian/club Children’s Officer

Be careful about the people to whom you give your number

Do not respond to unfamiliar numbers

Do not use your phone in locations such as changing rooms

**Notice and Take Down Procedure**

Cricket Ireland operates a notice and take down procedure for all its national operated social media platforms and website. This also applies to Provincial Unions, clubs and affiliated associations.

If you have a complaint or objection to comments or content posted on the Cricket Ireland social media platforms or website or if you feel that the content contraventions any regulations or this policy, please submit a complaint to info@cricketireland.ie

If you have a complaint or objection to comments or content posted on the Provincial Union’s social media platforms or website or if you feel that the content contraventions any regulations or this policy, please submit a complaint to:

Cricket Leinster – admin@cricketleinster.ie

If you have a complaint or objection to comments or content posted on a club or affiliated association’s social media platforms or website or if you feel that the content contraventions any regulations or this policy, please submit a complaint to the club secretary directly

Following the submission of a complaint, the below actions will be taken:

Acknowledgement of the complaint will be given at the earliest opportunity.

Where considered appropriate, the content may be edited or removed until the full enquiry is complete.

Any editing or removal will be done without prejudice.

Once the enquiry is complete Cricket Ireland or the relevant association may decide to:

Reinstate the content or not remove

Edit or amend the content at its discretion Remove the content permanently