



RICHMOND JETS MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

1. For the purpose of this Social Media Policy, the policy will encompass all, and or any, public communications through such services as twitter, Facebook, snapchat, whatsapp and any other Social Media platform which allows users to post opinions, status updates or simply communicate On-line.
2. This policy applies to all RJMHA members including Directors, Team Staff, On-Ice and Off-Ice Officials, players, player's family members and RJMHA team supporters.
3. RJMHA is aware that Social Media can be a huge asset and respects the rights of its members, teams and Association members to express their views publicly.
4. The purpose of the policy is to educate RJMHA members on the risks of On-line networking and to make all members aware of what is, and what is not appropriate. This policy will outline what actions may be subject to disciplinary action by the team, Minor Hockey Association, League and/or RJMHA.

5. Social Media Guidelines

- a) RJMHA holds the entire RJMHA community who participates in Social Media and networking to the same high standards as it does for all other forms of Media, including TV, Radio, and Print.
- b) Any comments, remarks or posts of any inappropriate nature which are detrimental to a team, the Association or an individual whether part of the RJMHA community or another Hockey Association at any time will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- c) It needs to be recognized that comments on Social Media and even text messages are considered on the record and can be published. These posts may also be on a public forum and may be accessed by the public or even media outlets.
- d) All individuals covered by this policy must refrain from divulging confidential information of a personal or team related nature.

6. Examples of Violations

The following are examples of conduct through Social Media and Networking mediums that are considered violations of the RJMHA Social Media and Networking Policy and may be subject to disciplinary action.

- a) Any statement deemed to be publicly critical of Association Officials (e.g. Board members, executive members, volunteers, or Team Officials), or detrimental to the welfare of a member team, RJMHA or an individual.

- b) Divulging confidential information that includes but is not limited to the following:
 - Player Injuries
 - Player Transfers
 - Team Strategies
 - Any information of a sensitive nature
- c) Negative or derogatory comments about any of the Team, Association, League, RJMHA Staff or Volunteers, Programs, Stakeholders, Players, Referees/Linesmen or any member on a RJMHA team.
- d) Photographs, video or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behaviour, including but not limited to the following:
 - Drug Abuse
 - Alcohol Abuse
 - Intoxication
 - Hazing
 - Sexual Exploitation
- e) On-line activities that contradicts the current policies of RJMHA or any of its Associates.
- f) Harassing, derogatory, racist or sexist comments of any kind.
- g) On-line activity that is meant to harm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth.

7. Discipline

Investigations will be made pursuant to the Discipline Policy. If the investigation determines that a violation has occurred, RJMHA will impose an appropriate suspension or punishment against the offending individual or individuals. Any appeal of the punishment will be dealt with as set out in RJMHA policy under the section appeals.