

HAMILTON HUSKIES HOCKEY CLUB SOCIAL MEDIA

AND NETWORKING POLICY

The Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club (“Huskies”) understands the importance of social networking, however, we recognize it also allows for inappropriate unsupervised conduct which may be detrimental to the welfare of the Huskies, and the future of Huskies players. The Huskies also respect the right of all Teams and Association personnel to express their views publicly. At the same time we must be aware of the dangers social media and networking can present.

For the purpose of this Social Media and Networking Policy, the policy will encompass public communications through such internet mediums and websites as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, SnapChat, Foursquare and any other social media network that allows users to communicate online (ie. Hockey Forums such as Minor Hockey Talk).

The Huskies hold the entire Huskies Hockey community, including Executive Members, Managers, Coaches, Trainers, Players, Support Staff, on/off-ice Officials and others who participate in SOCIAL NETWORKING to the same standards as it would with all forms of media, including television, radio and print. Inappropriate behaviour over SOCIAL NETWORKING media will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action being taken.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

- a) The Huskies holds the entire Huskies Community who participate in social media and networking to the same standards as it does for all other forms of media including radio, television and print.
- b) Comments or remarks of an inappropriate nature which are detrimental to a Team, the Association or an individual will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- c) It should be recognized that social media comments are on the record and instantly published and available to the public and media. Everyone including Association and/or Team personnel, players, corporate partners and the media can review social media communications. You should conduct yourself in an appropriate and professional manner at all times.
- d) Refrain from divulging confidential information of a personal or team related nature. Avoid revealing business or game strategy that could provide another team or individual a competitive advantage. Furthermore, do not discuss injury information about any player. Only divulge information that is considered public.
- e) Use your best judgment at all times – pause before posting. Ultimately, you are solely responsible for your comments and they are published for the public record.
- f) If requested to participate in an online network, as a direct result of your affiliation with or participation in Huskies recommends that you request approval from the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

SOCIAL MEDIA VIOLATIONS

The following are examples of conduct (and not limited to) through social media and networking mediums that are considered violations of the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club Social Media and

Networking Policy and may be subject to disciplinary action by the Team, Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club, League, Alliance Hockey, and/or any other applicable governing body (OHF, Hockey Canada).

- a) Any statement deemed to be publicly critical of Association officials or detrimental to the welfare of a member Team, the Association or an individual.
- b) Divulging confidential information that may include, but is not limited to the following: player injuries; player selection or player movement; game strategies; or any other matter of a sensitive nature to a member Team, the Association or an individual.
- c) Negative or derogatory comments about any of the Team, Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club, League and/or Huskies staff, programs, stakeholders, players or any member of a Huskies Team.
- d) Any form of bullying, harassment or threats against players or officials.
- e) Photographs, video or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior, including but not limited to:
 - drug use,
 - alcohol abuse,
 - public intoxication,
 - hazing,
 - sexual exploitation, etc.
- f) Online activity that contradicts the current policies of the Huskies and Alliance Hockey or any of its member Associations.
- g) Inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments of any kind, in keeping with the Huskies, Alliance Hockey, Ontario Hockey Federation and Hockey Canada policies and regulations on these matters.
- h) Online activity that is meant to alarm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth.

DISCIPLINE

The Team, Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club, and/or Alliance hockey will investigate reported violation(s) of this policy. Once investigate the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club in consultation with Alliance Hockey will impose the appropriate discipline and or suspension. Please note that Alliance Hockey considers behaviour that constitutes harassment, abuse or bullying through “Social Networking” an equivalent to an “Intent to Injury” and as such individuals found in violation of this policy will be subject to an immediate 4-game suspension pending an investigation. The Executive recognizes that perpetrator intent and victim impact may differ in each case, and reserves the right to escalate the process to automatic suspension immediately. Please report any infringements of the Social Media and Networking Policy to the GM of the Hamilton Huskies.

SUMMARY

When using social media and networking mediums, the Huskies community should assume at all times they are representing the Huskies and/or its member partners (Alliance Hockey) or Teams. All members of the Huskies community should remember to use the same discretion with social media and networking as they do with other traditional forms of media. Please report any infringements of the Social Media and Networking Policy to the GM of the Hamilton Huskies. If your complaint involves sexual or physical abuse, it is your duty to contact the Police immediately.