



TASA MINOR HOCKEY

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2023

SOCIAL MEDIA/NETWORKING POLICY

PREAMBLE

TASA Minor Hockey Association (“TASA”) acknowledges that members will use various methods of communication, including social media and communication via Internet and email. This Social Media / Networking Policy will encompass public communications by any member of TASA through any Internet mediums and/or websites that allow users to communicate online. Such mediums and/or websites include but are not limited to the following: Twitter, Facebook, SnapChat, Instagram, MySpace, LinkedIn, Foursquare, etc.

Members of TASA will be defined to include all Directors/Executive members, team staff/volunteers, registered members (players) and their family and supporters, all officials (on-ice and off-ice) as well as any person conducting business on behalf of TASA. The policy will be applicable to all members of TASA.

TASA recognizes and appreciates the value of social media and the importance of social networking to all of its stakeholders. TASA also respects the right of all teams and Association personnel to express their views publicly. We must constantly be aware of the dangers and risks associated with the use of social media and online networking.

The purpose of this policy is to increase awareness for the members of TASA on the risks of social media and to ensure all teams and Association personnel are aware that conduct deemed to be inappropriate may be subject to disciplinary action by the team and/or TASA.

POLICY

Members of TASA shall use social media and online networking in a respectful and appropriate manner at all times. Members of TASA shall be aware of possible perceptions of their communication through social media and online networking so that the messages communicated will be perceived as respectful and appropriate.

Members of TASA shall refrain from any communication through social media and online networking which is, or could be perceived as, racist, homophobic, sexist,



TASA MINOR HOCKEY

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2023

intimidating, bullying or otherwise offensive to any other member of TASA or our community in general.

PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES

It should be recognized that comments posted to social media sites and online networking sites are 'on the record' and are instantly published and available to the public and media. It may be difficult to retract such comments. Everyone, including Association and/or team personnel, players, corporate partners and the media, can review social media communications. All members of TASA should conduct themselves in an appropriate and professional manner at all times.

1. Members of TASA shall be aware of this policy through communication tools available to the Executive, including email and posting on the official TASA website.
2. TASA holds all members 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.
3. 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. Inappropriate and/or detrimental comments include, but are not limited to, the following examples:
 - a. Any comment or communication that is a form of bullying, harassment or threatening against any player, official, or any other individual
 - b. Any comment or communication that could be perceived as racist, homophobic, sexist or offensive
 - c. Any comment or communication that is intended to cause alarm to another individual(s) or that misrepresents fact or truth
 - d. Photographs, video, comments or any other form of communication that may promote negative influences and/or criminal behavior
 - e. Comments that are publically critical to any Association, official (on-ice or off-ice), team or individual
 - f. Negative or derogatory comments about any member of a team, TASA, league staff, stakeholder, players, opponents, or any other member of the community
 - g. Comments or communication that contradicts any current policy of TASA



TASA MINOR HOCKEY

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2023

4. TASA members should be aware that they represent our Association, whether they are a player, volunteer, Executive or supporter. TASA encourages all individuals to act responsibly and with respect at all times.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Communication that contradicts this policy should be addressed in accordance to all process and/or practices already in place for such issues, starting at the team level and as defined by TASA By-Laws and/or policies. These situations should be communicated to the TASA Executive via the President and Risk Management VP, for awareness purposes. TASA Executive will investigate any concern brought forward, as applicable and/or as required. Individual(s) and/or teams in violation of this policy will be held accountable, in accordance with any applicable By-Laws, Policies and Constitution of TASA. Methods of accountability include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Verbal discussion
2. Apology to offended parties
3. Written letter
4. Suspension
5. Revocation of membership and/or relationship with TASA

All members of TASA are bound to this policy, procedures and guidelines and accountability processes, as demonstrated by their active membership and/or volunteering role with TASA Minor Hockey Association.