



Parents and carers social media policy

Introduction

The aim of this policy is to provide parents & carers of Junior Ice Hockey players with guidance regarding their use of social media in relation to club activities. The purpose of this is to ensure that parents/carers do not leave themselves open to any allegations of impropriety, and that junior players are not inadvertently placed at risk.

The EIHA and Milton Keynes junior ice hockey club recognises that the use of social media is an important means of communication and support for many people, and whilst not wishing to be excessively restrictive, would ask parents/carers to uphold the EIHA's values and standards of conduct in their social media usage.

Social media in this context includes:

- Social networking sites e.g. Bebo, Facebook, Piczo, Hi5 and MySpace.
- Micro-blogging services e.g. Twitter.
- Video-sharing services e.g. You Tube.
- Photo-sharing services e.g. Flickr, Snapchat.
- Online games and virtual reality e.g. second life.
- Blogs and fora such as THF.

Policy

- Parents/carers are advised to utilise privacy controls on their social media to ensure that their content is restricted to their contacts and cannot be viewed by non-contacts.
- Parents/carers must not 'friend' or 'follow' other junior players on personal accounts on social media.
- Social media should not be used as a medium to criticise or bully, players, other parents, volunteers, clubs, facility providers or organisations involved in ice hockey.
- In line with the EIHA's Policy on Photography and Video, parents/carers are asked to avoid, where possible, capturing children other than their own in images, and if they do so, not to share those images without the consent of relevant other parents, or to obscure the faces of any other children and any other identifying details (such as names on kit).
- Report to the Club Designated Safeguarding Lead any concerns you may have regarding use of social media by any other volunteer or junior player.
- Parents/Carers should make themselves aware of online risks, such as grooming, through guidance published by organisations such as the NSPCC and CEOP.

Any breaches of this policy may be investigated as a safeguarding incident, and regrettably, could result in the junior player having to be excluded from the club.