



SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY & GUIDELINES FOR PLAYERS

Playing and competing for the Upper St. Clair Hockey Association is a privilege. Panther players are held in the highest regard and are seen as role models in the hockey community. As leaders you have the responsibility to portray your team and yourselves in a positive manner at all times.

Snapchat, Instagram, and other social media sites have changed society's communication, and are used by the majority of student-athletes in one form or another. Student-athletes should be aware that third parties including school administrators, teachers, college admissions, college coaches and employers could easily access your profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments and posts. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student-athlete and the Upper St. Clair Hockey Association. This can be detrimental to a student-athlete's future.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posts condoning the use of alcohol, drugs, vaping and tobacco.
- Photos, videos, comments or posts that are of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of inappropriate material.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity (examples: derogatory comments regarding another organization, taunting comments aimed at a player, coach or team at another institution and derogatory comments against race and/or gender).
- No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, illegal drug use).

If a player's profile or comments are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the above behaviors, he or she will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include:

- Written warning.
- Discipline from the coach.
- A hearing with president and vice president of coaching/operations.
- Penalties as determined by the coaching staff and the USC Hockey Board, including but not limited to possible suspension or removal from the team.
- Referral to the school district or local authorities.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, stop and consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as the Upper St. Clair Hockey Association. Remember, always present a positive image and don't do anything to embarrass yourself, your family or your team.

Please remember that USA Hockey and the Upper St. Clair Hockey Association prohibits cell phones, cameras and recording devices in the locker room at any time.

By signing below you affirm that you understand the Upper St. Clair Hockey Associations Social Media Policy and Guidelines for its players. Also, you affirm that failure to adhere to this policy and guidelines may result in consequences that may include suspension or removal from your team, and you may be subject to additional penalties imposed by the Upper St. Clair Hockey Association, Upper St. Clair School District, and USA Hockey.

PLAYERS PRINTED NAME _____

PLAYERS SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENTS SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____