



Title: Social Media, Mobile and Electronic Communication Policy

Document Number:	0006	Revision:	A
Document Type:	Guideline	Effective Date:	10/15/2018
Document Title:	Social Media Policy		Approval Date:
Signed Approval:	Secretary	/s/ Stacey Belisle	10/02/2018
	President	/s/ Randy Wiederin	10/02/2018

1.0 Overview Section

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to inform SYHA members, players, and coaches on the acceptable use of social media and electronic/mobile devices, and to ensure all teams and Association Members are aware that conduct deemed to be inappropriate may be subject to disciplinary action by SYHA, WAHA, and/or USA Hockey.

1.2 Scope:

This policy applies to all members of SYHA, Players and Coaches.

1.3 Implementation:

Implementation is in accordance with *Effective by Date*.

1.4 Responsibilities:

Function Responsibility

Association Members (Parents/Volunteers)	Discuss issues or concerns with immediate team manager. Work to resolve issues with their coach as they arise or the coaches committee.
Team Managers	Advise parents/volunteers of this policy; be open to discuss issues and concerns and work to resolve in a timely manner.
Coaches	Be aware of this policy and work with coaches committee and parent to resolve issues
Employees	Be aware of this policy and work with your boss to resolve any issues.
Board Members	Advise parents/volunteers of this policy; be open to discuss issues and concerns and work to resolve in a timely manner.

1.5 Rationale:

The SYHA Social Media policy outlines appropriate use of social media regarding SYHA and its members. SYHA will not tolerate inappropriate use of social media by members, and therefore explains below potential sanctions and disciplinary actions in response to any breach of policy.

2.0 Definitions

Term Definition

Tools that allow individuals or groups to generate content and engage in peer-to-peer conversations and exchange of content (examples are YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, instant messaging, texting, etc).

3.0 General Policy Statement

Effective communication concerning travel, practice or game schedules, and administrative issues among coaches, administrators, players and their families is critical. However, the use of mobile



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devices, web-based applications, social media, and other forms of electronic communications increases the possibility for improprieties and misunderstandings and also provides potential offenders with unsupervised and potentially inappropriate access to participants. The improper use of mobile and electronic communications can result in misconduct. Adherence to the Social Media, Mobile and Electronic Communication Policy helps reduce this risk.

3.1 Procedure

3.1.1 Social Media|Mobile|Electronic Communication Policy

As part of SYHA, WAHA and USA Hockey's emphasis on participant safety, communications with our minor participants should be appropriate, as well as transparent. Recognizing that communication is made using mobile devices, web-based applications, and social media more than ever, it is necessary to define a policy so that these communications are not only productive but appropriate, while protecting our participants from inappropriate access from potential offenders.

- All electronic communications between coaches and/or team administrators and players must be for the purpose of communicating information about team or program activities. If the player is under the age of 18, any email, text or social media communications sent directly to the player MUST also copy the player's parent/guardian.
- Because of concerns involving our minor participants being exposed on social media sites, SYHA and USA Hockey prohibit coaches from having players join their personal Facebook page or any other social media application. It is permissible to develop a "team page" that players and parents may "join" and can be used by coaches or team administrators to communicate to players through the site, as long as the information is team oriented and non-personal in nature.
- At any time, a parent may request in writing that their player not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches, team administrators, program representatives, or other adults in the program.
- All players and family members are to refrain from participating in forums or blogs regarding any players, coaches or family members of the SYHA hockey team, or any other team for that matter, in any fashion including posting scores or comments on any youth hockey websites.
- At no time should any player, family member and/or member of SYHA post negative, derogatory, racist, sexist or inappropriate comments on any social media platform.
- Comments, remarks or statements posted on any social media platform or communicated electronically which are inappropriate and detrimental to a SYHA Team, Coach, Player or the Association as a whole will not be tolerated.
- Players or family members may only post positive messages regarding the players, coaches or family members of the team on social websites such as Facebook, Instagram, etc.



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- Locker room – at no time will any use of electronic devices to capture photos, videos or record conversations be permitted. Players and coaches are permitted to play/stream music on their phones provided the content is appropriate and not disruptive to the atmosphere.

Any SYHA Member, Player or Coach that violates the Social Media, Mobile and Electronic Communication policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action as indicated in the Problem Solving and Grievance Procedures Policy, Document Number 003.

4.0 Document Information

4.1 Attachments

None

4.2 Governing Documents

Document Title

None

4.3 Reference Documents

Document Number Title

None

4.4 Description of Change

Revision A – Initial document introduction

No other changes.

4.5 Distribution

Available to all on the SYHA website:

Board of Directors

Coaches

Parents

Members

Employees

END OF DOCUMENT