



## LIFFORD AFC SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Lifford AFC use the Guidelines for a Social Media policy as set out in The Fai Child Welfare Policy (2019 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, page 81 -85 ). The full policy wording can be read in The Child Welfare Policy on [www.fai.ie](http://www.fai.ie)

### COACHES AND PLAYERS

- You are responsible for your conduct when you are using any form of social media
- Your personal views should not conflict with your existing role in football. You should be aware that what you publish will be public for many years
- Be mindful of the impact your contribution might make to people's perceptions of the FAI and its Affiliated Members

### USING SOCIAL MEDIA

- When making use of any Social Media platform, you must comply with its terms of use.
- Do not upload, post or forward any content belonging to a third party unless you have that third party's consent. For example, don't discuss colleagues, competitors, coaches and / or players without their prior approval.
- Avoid publishing your contact details where they can be accessed and used widely by people you did not intend to see them, and never publish anyone else's contact details
- Do not engage with irate players, parents or coaches on a public forum. Organise a meeting to allow all parties to discuss possible outcomes.

## USING SOCIAL MEDIA (Continued)

- **If you are a Manager, Coach, Club Official, referee or medic you should not:**

**1. Accept any player who is under 18 as a friend on your personal Social Media page**

**2. Communicate with any person under 18 through social Media, text message, phone or email**

- All Communications concerning under 18s should be made through parents / Guardians. It is important to ensure all communications relate to specific club matters e.g. fixtures, training etc.

## SETTING UP AND RUNNING A SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE

- Do not use personal details to set up your organisations Social Media Page. You should for example use the organisations email address. All account log in details should be kept safe and secure to avoid possible hacking
- When setting up an email address and /or Social Media page for your organisation (for example a club website), it should be accessed by at least three administrators. These administrators should be responsible for uploading content and monitoring posts on the site. If any of these administrators or any other person are behaving inappropriately their access should be removed immediately.
- It is important to ensure everyone within your organisation is aware of who is administering your Social Media page (s)
- Each administrator should be familiar with the privacy and safety settings on their Social Media page to ensure it is for use by your organisation only.
- Do not accept anyone under the age of 13 on your social Media page. Report underage users to the Child's parents or the Social Media Outlet.
- Any user under the age of 18 looking to join your Social Media page should have provided written parental/ Guardian consent in advance.
- No images or personal information of under 18s should be posted online without prior written consent from each Parent/ Guardian. It is critical that no user is asked to post any personal details of under 18s as certain information could be used to identify or locate them.

- SETTING UP AND RUNNING A SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE (Continued)
- To avoid any inappropriate material appearing on your Social Media Page you should enable the appropriate privacy settings. This will allow you to manage the content on your Social Media page to avoid any distress or reputational damage.
- The content on your page should be accurate and up to date and any material that is no longer required should be removed
- Any inappropriate use, such as bullying, is strictly prohibited and should be reported to the Children's Officer within your organisation.
- Misuse of Social Media, in certain circumstances, constitute a criminal offence and suspicious behaviour towards under 18s should be reported to the Statutory Authorities.
- If you are unsure about something you are about to post, then you should not do it. Always consider who will be able to view it and if in doubt, always discuss with the Children's Officer within your organisation.
- Do not post the results of under 12 games on the club website. This is CSSL protocol. Posting a win or loss is enough.
- Do not tag Under 18 Players

### PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING

There are inherent risks in posting personal information about children or Vulnerable persons as it can lead to identify them and their location, or it is possible that images may be subject to inappropriate use. When posting photographs or videos the following points should be considered

- At the start of each season it is essential that written consent is received from every child's parent / Guardian before any photography or filming takes place. This should be obtained using an appropriate consent form
- Children's names or additional detailed information about them **must not** accompany any image or video. Before uploading any images or videos of children, written consent **must** be received from each parent/Guardian.
- Any person filming or taking photographs **must** be Garda vetted and have completed a relevant FAI approved Safeguarding 1 basic awareness course.
- If a child within your organisation is under a court order or is in the care of the Child and Family Agency (Tusla)/HSE, their image **must not** be placed in a public domain.

## PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING (Continued)

- Ensure that Children are appropriately dressed and only allow images to be taken on the field of play. Photographing / Filming must not take place in areas of personal privacy such as changing rooms, showers, toilets and bedrooms
- Camera phones should never be allowed into Children's changing rooms, showers or toilets.
- If an individual who is engaged in filming / photography presents a serious concern or an immediate danger, please report the issue to your local Garda Station or Tusla.
- If parents/ Guardians, professional photographers or other spectators are intending to photograph or video at an event they should be made aware of the policy.
- Specific details of the Policy in relation to Photography and filming should, wherever possible, be published prominently and must be announced over the Public Address System, Prior to the start of an event.
- Organisations must never allow unsupervised access to children, one to one photo sessions or photos outside the event or at a Child's Home.

NB

Members should not post negative comments about referees, Judges, opponents , team mates, coaches or any member of their own club or any other club. **Cyber or online bullying is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated, and poor behaviour will be treated as a breach of the Code of Conduct in Real Time.**

The risks associated with Social Media services include Cyberbullying, grooming and potential abuse by online predators, identity theft and exposure to inappropriate content. The capabilities of Social of sites may increase the risk for sexual exploitation of children and young people.