



Market Drayton Hockey Club Social Media Policy



Market Drayton Hockey Club (“MDHC”) recognises that social media provides an effective platform for discussion and information sharing amongst adults and junior members.

Nevertheless, MDHC also recognises that the use of social media can pose a risk to its club members, reputation and compliance with legal obligations. One inappropriate comment can cause distress to one person and impact on hundreds of club members.

The purpose of this policy is to protect club members, minimise risk and ensure MDHC’s social media is used appropriately and forms part of the club’s overall RESPECT campaign.

This policy covers all members of Market Drayton Hockey Club.

The key Message is: Think before you post!

Posts on MDHC’s social media or media linked to MDHC’s social media, be it photographs, comments or links should not be inappropriate. Users must not engage in activities or transmit content that is harassing, discriminatory, menacing, threatening, obscene, defamatory, or in any way objectionable or offensive. Users are personally responsible for what they communicate in social media and should remember that what they publish may be available to a wide audience over a lengthy period of time. Users should not post comments which could be construed as sensitive, objectionable or inflammatory. When using social media users should respect their audience.

Do not identify young people in images (i.e. captions to pictures, tagging on Facebook).

Remember the term ‘young person’ means those less than 18 years of age.

Anyone who finds a post inappropriate should email details to the Club Chairman and Hon.Secretary.

Sanctions

Comments that are deemed to flout the above will be removed by the administrators and the person or persons who posted will be informed. Anyone who posts inappropriate content will be dealt with by MDHC’s disciplinary committee.

The Club Welfare Officer will be informed of any matters relating to young or vulnerable people and deal with the post as appropriate.

Issues relating to adults and the reputation of the Club will be referred to the Chairman and Disciplinary Committee.

The local hockey Leagues have made it very clear that any published inappropriate comments about opponents, umpires, officials or other clubs on social media, websites or match reports in the press will be dealt with by them through sanctions such as bans, fines and point deductions.