

Witchford Colts Football Club

Social Media Policy

INTRODUCTION

Members of Witchford Colts Football Club (the 'Club') enjoy the opportunities and rewards of being associated with a local community-based sports club and so it is expected that all members will uphold the ethos of the club in all social media interactions.

Members will not act in such a way that the image of the Club is brought into disrepute nor in a way that harms its immediate and wider footballing community. Social media can be, when appropriate, an effective tool and is commonly used by the Club community to publicise, promote and showcase its news, events, work and success. The Club expects members to use social media in a respectful and responsible manner. Social media should not be used to insult, present offensive or inappropriate content or to misrepresent the club or any member of the Club or the external football community.

RATIONALE

The purpose of this policy is to set standards of behaviour for the use of social media that are consistent with the broader values and expectations of the Club community.

DEFINITION

Social Media – refers to all social networking sites, including but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and includes email and mobile devices.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all members of the Club (defined as Committee members, managers and coaches, volunteers, players and parents/carers)

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Members are expected to show respect to others, including members of the Club and wider football community. Members are also expected to give due respect to the reputation and good name of the Club.

When using Social Media, members are expected to ensure that they:

- Respect the rights and confidentiality of others;
- Do not impersonate or falsely represent another person;
- Do not bully, intimidate, abuse, harass or threaten others;
- Do not make defamatory comments;
- Do not use offensive or threatening language or resort to personal abuse towards each other or members of the Club community;
- Do not post content that is hateful, threatening, pornographic or incites violence against others;
- Do not post content that harms the reputation and good standing of the Club or those within its community;
- Do not post confidential information about the Club or any person associated with the club who has not given express authority to disseminate

If you notice any use of social media by members of the Club Committee, managers and coaches, volunteers, players and parents/carers that you believe is in breach of this policy please report it to the Club Secretary immediately.

BREACH OF THIS POLICY

A breach of this policy may also involve a breach of other Club policies, and should be read in conjunction with the:

- FA's Code of Conduct or Football; as found on the FA website
- Respect Code for Conduct of Youth Players; available of the Club's website
- Respect Code for Conduct for Spectators and Parents/Carers; available on the Club's website

A breach of this policy will be considered by the Club Committee, and will be dealt with on a case by case basis. All reports of cyber bullying and other technology misuses will be investigated fully and may result in notification to the police where the Club is obliged to do so. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, suspension, or banning from membership of the Club. Members must be aware that in certain circumstances where a crime has been committed, they may be subject to a criminal investigation by the police over which the Club will have no control.

MONITORING OF THIS POLICY

This Code is fully supported by the Club Committee at Witchford Colts Football Club who is responsible for its implementation and regular review.

To be reviewed at AGM.

Chariman's Signature.....Date.....

CWO Signature.....Date.....

