



DUNDEE WEST FC

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Internet and mobile based social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Myspace, Bebo, Messenger, Live Profile, Instagram, WhatsApp, Snapchat and any such similar currently existing or future existing sites, as well as the recent phenomenon of 'Blogging' (writing an online and public diary) have become increasingly popular and Dundee West is keen to ensure that its teams, players, coaches, parents and supporters remain protected in what is a very open and public way of sharing information and images across the internet.

With recent news that a local club was recently docked points for comments made on social media by someone linked to the club and other teams being censored by the governing bodies, we have decided to issue these guidelines to hopefully avoid any such action being taken against one of our member teams.

We also want to emphasise that any concern/complaint about our Club should be done through proper Club processes instead of using Chat Groups or Social Media to air a grievance.

Dundee West acknowledges that blogs and social networking sites provide individuals with a way of sharing their insights, expressing their opinions and communicating in a global environment. When you choose to go public with your opinions however through a blog, social networking site or other openly accessible medium, you are legally responsible for those opinions. You should therefore be aware that you can be held personally responsible for any commentary deemed to be defamatory, obscene, discriminatory, proprietary or libellous. For these reasons, you need to exercise caution with regards to any derogatory, discriminatory or bullying remarks or characterisations, copyrighted materials, exaggeration or obscenity. What you post to the internet is at your own risk and other parties can pursue legal action against you personally for postings.

To avoid any problems or potential disciplinary action, Dundee West recommends that players, parents, coaches, officials, supporters remember a few guidelines, which are listed on the right-hand side, when using social media.

Finally, Social Media can be a great way to keep in touch with fellow players and friends and to raise Dundee West's profile.

- 1. Never use terms which are derogatory, offensive or insulting to anyone. This will be viewed as Bullying.**
- 2. Avoid commenting on matters relating to referees and other team's players, coaches, parents and supporters.**
- 3. Avoid making instant comment or reply.**
- 4. Avoid being critical of those who hold positions of authority within football.**
- 5. If Club related, use Club Processes to raise a concern/complaint instead of using Chat Groups or Social Media sites.**
- 6. Others may publish any comments made by you without your consent, as blogging is considered in the public domain.**
- 7. Be completely certain of the accuracy/legitimacy of what you are saying.**
- 8. If you are unsure whether a post may be controversial then don't post it.**
- 9. Anything said online - whether good, bad or indifferent - reflects upon you and possibly your club and may impact upon its reputation.**
- 10. Any comment or photo you put out makes an indelible impression online - you might think you have deleted it, but it will be recorded and remain accessible.**
- 11. Don't share images unless written consent has been received.**
- 12. Enjoy it responsibly.**

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Dundee West FC Executive Committee