



## Social Media Policy

### Policy

#### **Background**

Elevate Volleyball Club understands that advancements of technology are enabling new forms of social interaction and social media is a popular communication tool for players, parents and coaches. Elevate Volleyball Club is also aware that social media is a venue where inappropriate behavior and misconduct can occur.

- 1.0 When posting materials (i.e. information/pictures/videos) “online” (any social media/webpage site), coaches, athletes, club officials, parents and volunteers shall represent Elevate Volleyball Club in a positive manner at all times.
- 2.0 Online materials that represents, reflect on or is perceived as involving Elevate Volleyball Club must not contain negative comments/pictures/videos about any other volleyball club, fellow athletes, parents, club officials, coaches or volunteers.
- 3.0 Materials in reference to a physical description of the player, related to race, religion, political views or inflammatory ideas is not permitted.
- 4.0 Any Athlete who does not wish to have a picture taken of them, may express this verbally or in writing to their coach.
- 5.0 Any violations are subject to review and possibly discipline by the Elevate Volleyball Club Board of Directors.
- 6.0 Elevate Volleyball Club reserves the right to determine appropriate outcome for any violation of this policy. Such violations may range from removal of the objectionable material to suspension or release of an athlete/coach from the team roster and involvement in the club.
- 7.0 All athletes must complete the Social Media Waiver Form when registering for tryouts



## Social Media Guidelines

### ***Social Media Guidelines for Coaches***

The following tips should be used by coaches to inform their own strategy for social media use:

- Choosing not to engage with social media is an acceptable social media strategy. But you should have good reasons for your choice and be active in other communication media.
- Resist commenting on athletes' personal activities on any other social media
- Consider monitoring or being generally aware of athletes' public social media behaviour to ensure compliance with Elevate Volleyball Club Athletes Agreement/Code of Conduct.
- Coaches may not demand access to an athlete's private social media accounts.
- If you accept some "friend" requests, or follow one athlete on social media, you should accept all friend requests and follow all the athletes. Be careful not to show favouritism on social media.
- Consider managing your personal social media accounts so that athletes do not have the option to follow you
- Seek permission from athletes and/or ensure they have signed the Elevate Volleyball Club Social Media Waiver Form before posting pictures or videos of the athletes on publicly available social media.
- Do not use social media to debate with athletes if they say one thing to you in person but their social media activity reveals they were doing something different.
- Keep athlete/team selection decisions and other official team business off social media.
- Never require athletes to join a social media site.
- Ensure that parents are aware that some coach-athlete interactions may take place on social media.
- Exercise appropriate discretion when using social media for your own personal communications (with friends, colleagues, and other athletes) with the knowledge that your behaviour may be used as a model by your athletes.
- Never misrepresent yourself by using a fake name or fake profile.
- Be aware that you may acquire information about an athlete that imposes an obligation of disclosure on your part (such as seeing pictures of underage athletes drinking during a trip).



## ***Social Media Guidelines for Athletes***

The following tips should be used by athletes to inform their own strategy for social media use:

- Always use social media to portray a positive impression of yourself, team mates, coaches, other competitors and Elevate Volleyball Club.
- Set your privacy settings to restrict who can search for you and what private information other people can see.
- Coaches, teammates, officials, or opposing competitors may all add you to a social media site. You are not required to follow anyone.
- If you feel harassed by someone associated with Elevate Volleyball Club in a social medium, report it to your coach.
- Content posted on a social medium, relative to your privacy settings, is considered public. In most cases, you do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy for any material that you post.
- Avoid posting pictures of, or alluding to, participation in illegal activity such as: speeding, physical assault, harassment, drinking alcohol (if underage), and smoking marijuana.
- Model appropriate behaviour in social media befitting your status as a) an elite athlete, and b) a member of Elevate Volleyball Club. As a representative of Elevate Volleyball Club, you have agreed to the club Athlete Agreement/Code of Conduct.
- Be aware that your public social media may be monitored by your club and/or coach content or behaviour demonstrated in social media may be subject to sanction under Elevate Volleyball Club Policy.



Elevate Volleyball Club

Social Media Waiver Form

In the spirit of positively promoting the Elevate Volleyball Club and their athletes, coaches and club representatives may want to take pictures/videos and post on a social media site/webpage.

I, the undersigned, do hereby grant permission to Elevate Volleyball Club to use, post (on Elevate Volleyball Club social media or webpage) my and/or my child's video, photo, or other item, hereinafter referred to as "Materials" that have been taken during tryouts and throughout the volleyball season of play.

I also understand that no royalty, fee or other compensation shall become payable to the athlete by reason of such use.

Athlete's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Mobile/Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge that my child is under 18 years old and lacks the legal capacity to enter into binding agreements. Accordingly, I have read this Waiver Form and consent to my child's inclusion in the materials.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (Club Representative)