

**A.K. SOCCER ACADEMY
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

We at A.K. Soccer Academy ("**AKSA**") emphasize player safety first, any communications involving our youth players should be appropriate, productive and transparent. Effective communications concerning travel, practice or game schedules, and administrative issues among administrators, coaches, youth players, and their families is very important. However, the use of mobile devices, web-based applications, social media, and other forms of electronic communications increases the possibility for improprieties and misunderstandings. The improper use of mobile and electronic communications can result in misconduct and is strictly prohibited by AKSA.

AKSA states that any participant involved in AKSA programs, whether it be a coach, player, employee or parent, shall adhere to this policy for electronic communications and social media. All content of electronic communications should be readily available to share with the public or families of the coach or players.

Coaches, volunteers and staff of AKSA must copy parent(s) or guardian(s), as the case may be, on all electronic and mobile communications to youth players unless the parent(s) or guardian(s), as the case may be, have previously approved, in writing, direct communications with the youth player.

To ease communications, coaches, volunteers and staff of AKSA may set-up e-mail and texting groups with parent(s) or guardian(s), as the case may be, and the youth players, i.e., via TeamSnap or Telegram, or other forms of group applications, and make this group communication for the entire team, including the team's parent(s) or guardian(s), players and coaching staff.

Coaches, volunteers and staff of AKSA should not hesitate to speak with a parent or guardian if a coach receives an electronic or mobile communication from a youth player that makes the coach, volunteer or staff member of AKSA, uncomfortable.

SOCIAL MEDIA

For the purposes of this policy, social media means any online publication and commentary, including, without limitation, blogs, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Telegram, Instagram, SnapChat, YouTube, and any other online publication forum.

Be mindful and respectful of any posting you make. AKSA asks that your postings on social media are respectful and shall not communicate in a manner that harms AKSA or its coaches, volunteers, staff members, youth players or parent(s) or guardian(s).

We encourage communications that promote the AKSA family spirit and pride.

The following commentary is prohibited on social media:

- Ethnic slurs, offensive comments, defamatory comments, personal insults, obscenities, etc.
- Communications that contain confidential information or information that others would reasonably expect to be private.
- Communications that constitute real or reasonably perceived harassment and discrimination of coaches, volunteers, AKSA staff, youth players, parent(s) or guardian(s) or sponsors.
- Purporting to communicate on behalf of AKSA, unless authorized by AKSA.

Any posts on social media posted by non-AKSA authorized representatives are the views and opinions expressed by the user, and are the legal responsibility of the user and do not represent the views of AKSA.

Cyber Bullying

We at AKSA will not tolerate any type of cyberbullying among youth players and any such instances of cyber bullying will be subject to disciplinary action by the disciplinarian.

Examples of cyber bullying behavior are: teasing and being made fun of, spreading rumors online, sending unwanted messages or defamation of character.

If a coach, volunteer, staff member of AKSA, player, parent or guardian has information about any conduct that is occurring on social media, we ask that you contact Disciplinarian immediately, so the appropriate action can be taken to stop the inappropriate behavior.

Using social media can be fun and a great way to promote the AKSA family, however using social media to cause harm to AKSA's interests or in a negative way against AKSA, its coaches, volunteers, staff of AKSA, youth players, parent(s) or guardian(s) is wrong and will not be tolerated by AKSA. Policy violations will be subject to disciplinary action potentially leading up to prosecution if deemed necessary.