



## **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY & GUIDELINES**

### **PURPOSE**

This policy provides guidance for teams, volunteers, members, parents, and players on using the Internet and electronic communication.

To protect the interests of the Clarence Rockland Ringette Association (CRRA) and its members, CRRA has established this Social Media Policy.

Violations of this policy may result in a warning or disciplinary action.

### **JURISDICTION**

This policy applies to all business activities, events (including games, practices, and social gatherings) organized by the Clarence Rockland Ringette Association (CRRA). It includes all members and participants. Additionally, CRRA and its members are required to adhere to the Social Media Policy set forth by Ringette Ontario (found [here](#)).

### **GUIDELINES**

It is everyone's responsibility to follow proper procedures both in the arena and online. Coaches, volunteers, and others in positions of trust within Ringette must act responsibly, both on and off the ice. This includes the use of electronic communications. Coaches and those in positions of responsibility must ensure that they communicate in a responsible manner.

Everyone using social media should:

- Think twice before posting; once it's online, it can't be retracted.
- Maintain a positive presence, as negative comments can harm your reputation and that of the CRRA.
- Express personal opinions in the first person, not representing the CRRA.
- If you're 17 or younger, get parental permission before posting photos or names.

### Do NOT:

- Post negative comments about the CRRA, other groups, players, referees, or controversial subjects.
- Use harassing or derogatory language. Refer to the Ringette Ontario Harassment & Bullying Policy for details ([found Here](#)).
- Engage with inaccurate or negative comments; contact Ringette Ontario for guidance instead.
- Use copyrighted material without proper citations and permission from the copyright owner.

## **TEAMS, PLAYERS and VOLUNTEERS**

Many teams, players, and volunteers use websites and social media to share updates about schedules, practices, cancellations, scores, and tournament wins. While players aged seventeen (17) and younger may have their own email addresses, all communications should also be sent to a parent's email.

Adults should not communicate one-on-one with players under seventeen (17). Coaches and parents should encourage these young players to inform a trusted adult if they receive any uncomfortable messages or are told not to share information.

## **COACHES**

Many CRRA coaches work with players under 18 years old, including some coaches in training. It's essential to exercise caution with this age group to avoid any appearance of inappropriate conduct.

Unless a player or coach who is 17 or younger is a direct relative, coaches, managers, and trainers should generally:

- Not accept friend requests on social media from those under 18 or share personal pages with them.
- Not send personal messages unrelated to Ringette to anyone under 18.
- Not engage in personal conversations or social comments.

For questions about the CRRA social media policy or related incidents, please contact the CRRA Board of Directors.

