



Morinville Minor Soccer Club

TITLE: Electronic Communication

POLICY # 5

Created: July 7, 2020	Last updated: July 14, 2020	Board Approved: July 14, 2020
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Version No.	Effective Date	Significant Changes
1	July 14, 2020	None

1.0 Purpose

This policy governs the electronic communication by volunteers, Board Members and Members of MMSC. For the purposes of this policy, electronic communication means any communication by phone, texting, emails, all forms of social media, MMSC associated websites and/ or team platforms.

2.0 Terms

Transparent: All electronic communication between coaches and athletes should not only be clear and direct, but also free of hidden meanings, innuendo and expectations.

Accessible: All electronic communication between coaches and athletes should be considered as part of the Organization's records. Another coach or parent must be included in the communication so that there is no question regarding accessibility.

Professional: All electronic communication between a coach and an athlete should be conducted professionally. This includes word choices, tone, grammar, and subject matter that model the standards and integrity of a coach.

3.0 Policy

As part of the Morinville Minor Soccer Club (MMSC) emphasis on athlete safety, communications involving our youth athletes should be appropriate, productive, and transparent. Effective communications concerning travel, practice or games schedules, and administrative issues among administrators, coaches, athletes, and their families is critical. 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 legal implications and thus strictly prohibited by MMSC.

MMSC states that any participant involved in any of its club's programs as a coach, team officials, volunteer, or adult participant shall adhere to this policy for electronic communications and social media. All electronic communication between coaches, officials, volunteers, adult participants and parents/guardians of athletes must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Individuals must follow the common sense guidelines regarding the volume and time of day of any allowed electronic communication. All content of electronic communication should be readily available to share with the public or families of the athlete or coach.

Overview

- Coaches, officials, volunteers, or adult participants must communicate with parents/guardians on all electronic communications in regards to minor athletes.
- To ease communications, coaches may only set-up e-mail and texting groups with parents/guardians of the athletes and make this group communication a norm for the team.
- Coaches or any other adult can not communicate through any social media to minors. All communication must go through the parents/guardians only
- Coaches or any other adult involved with minors are prohibited to make private social media pages like Facebook, twitter and similar sites

4.0 Violations of Policy

Social media and electronic communications can be used to commit abuse and misconduct (e.g., emotional, sexual, bullying, harassment, and hazing). Such communications by coaches, employees, volunteers, adult participants, or athletes will not be tolerated and are strictly prohibited by MMSC.

Anyone who violates this Electronic Communications and Social Media Policy is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension, expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. Violations of this Policy should be reported to the MMSC's Executive Board.