

## STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL (SMBA)

### SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

#### **1. Introduction**

- a. For this Social Media and Networking Policy, the policy will encompass public communications through such internet mediums and websites as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Foursquare and any other social media network that allows users to communicate online.
- b. The policy will be applicable to all members of the SMBA Community, including Directors, Teams, on-field and off-field officials, players, players' family members and supporters.

#### **2. Guidelines**

- a. SMBA holds the entire SMBA Community who participates in social media and networking to the same standards as it does for all other forms of media including radio, television, and print.
- b. Comments or remarks of an inappropriate nature which are detrimental to a Team, the Association or an individual will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- c. It should be recognized that social media comments are on the record and instantly published and available to the public and media. Everyone including Association and/or Team personnel, players, corporate partners and the media can review social media communications. You should always conduct yourself in an appropriate and professional manner.
- d. Always use your best judgment – pause before posting. Ultimately, you are solely responsible for your comments, and they are published for the public record.
- e. If requested to participate in an online network, as a direct result of your affiliation with or participation in SMBA, SMBA recommends that you request approval from the Team or the Association.

#### **3. Violations**

- a. The following are examples of conduct through social media and networking mediums that are considered violations of the SMBA Social Media and Networking Policy and may be subject to disciplinary action by the Team, Minor Hockey Association, League and/or SMHA:
  - i. Any statement deemed to be publicly critical of Association officials or detrimental to the welfare of a member Team, the Association or an individual,

- ii. Divulging confidential information,
- iii. Negative or derogatory comments about any of the Team, Minor Baseball Association, League and/or SMBA staff, programs, stakeholders, players, or any member of a SMBA Team,
- iv. Any form of bullying, harassment or threats against players or officials,
- v. Photographs, video, or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior, including but not limited to:
  - Drug or alcohol abuse,
  - Hazing,
  - Sexual exploitation, etc.
- vi. Online activity that contradicts the current policies of SMBA or any of its member Associations,
- vii. Inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments of any kind, in keeping with the SMBA policies and regulations on these matters,
- viii. Online activity that is meant to alarm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth.

**4. Discipline**

- a. As per the SMBA Discipline Policy.

<b>Revision</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary of changes</b>
1	Nov 12, 2023	Initial Document
2	Nov 20, 2023	Formatting (Payton)