



Social Media Policy

1. Overview

Girevoy Sports Association Australia recognises that Social Media is an important part of the way members communicate, and GSAA therefore encourages members to participate in Social Media and share their experiences of Girevoy Sport. GSAA's public reputation is valuable and so are the reputations of GSAA's Members, sponsors and stakeholders, so GSAA prohibits Social Media communication that is defamatory, proprietary, obscene, misrepresentative of GSAA or for commercial purposes. GSAA has developed this policy to encourage and promote appropriate use of Social Media by its members which adds value and promotes the sport in a positive way.

2. Definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms used in this policy shall have the same meaning as in the Girevoy Sport Association Australia Constitution and this document is to be read in conjunction with (and subject to) the Constitution and the GSAA Member Protection Policy.

2.1 In this policy, Social Media refers to interactive electronic forums or online media where people are communicating, posting, participating, sharing, networking, bookmarking and mashing. For the purposes of this policy, Social Media extends to:

- a) Material communicated electronically, whether written, photographic, video or audio which is accessible by more than the individual member;
- b) Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, LinkedIn, Wikipedia, Instagram and all related domains
- c) Blogs, social networking sites, instant messaging, social bookmarking, media sharing and collaborative editing websites
- d) Any other forum which might be classified reasonably as social media that term is generally understood and
- e) Any other forum for public comment

3. Conditions of using Social Media

3.1 Prohibitions: When using social media, a member must not:

- a) Make posts that are abusive or harass or threaten any other person including GSAA contractors, committee members, officials or any other GSAA member;
- b) Abuse others or expose others to content that is offensive, inappropriate, obscene, insulting, provocative or hateful including in relation to GSAA committee members, officials or any other GSAA member
- c) Impersonate or falsely represent any other person
- d) Post inaccurate or misleading or deceptive content or content for an illegal purpose
- e) Make defamatory or libellous comments
- f) Post material that infringes the intellectual property rights of others or breaks any other law including privacy, defamation or harassment
- g) Post content that interferes with the conduct of any function or event run by GSAA or with the role and responsibilities of GSAA as the peak body for Girevoy Sport in Australia
- h) Comment in a way that may harm the reputation of a GSAA member, sponsors, partners or stakeholders
- i) Use social media platform as a forum for disputes or grievances
- j) Use videos or images of others without express prior permission or
- k) Publish, post or release information that is considered confidential and not for the public.

3.2 When posting on any GSAA Social Media Platform, an individual must not

- a) Promote their commercial interests in any manner
- b) Make excessive postings on a particular issue or post multiple versions of the same opinion or information
- c) Include personal information about themselves or others in post (eg email addresses, private addresses, telephone numbers)
- d) Identify and discuss other people and business including other members, athletes, officials or coaches unless they have their explicit permission to do so

3.3 In addition, all individuals are solely responsible for all comments that they post on social media. Individuals making personal comments should make it clear that the views expressed are their own and are not a representation of the views of GSAA

4. Consequences – Disciplinary Action

4.1 Where a breach or suspected breach of the policy occurs, GSAA may:

- a) Make a necessary public comment such as a correction, clarification, contradiction or apology
- b) Issue a formal warning
- c) Report any breach of any law to any local authority or wronged party
- d) Take any disciplinary action available to it under the Constitution or any By-Law or Policy made under the Constitution; or

e) Exercise any of its available rights at law

4.2 GSAA expressly reserves the right to take any action, including dealing directly with Social Media providers, to remove any posted material that it considers to be in breach of this Policy.

5. Liability and Responsibility

5.1 If a member makes public comment on Social Media or some other forum, that member is solely responsible for that comment. Members should make it clear that the views expressed are their own

5.2 Members who communicate their opinions and any other materials on Social Media do so at their own risk. A member may be held personally liable for any commentary and /or material which may be defamatory, obscene or proprietary

5.3 GSAA encourages members to report any use of social media which is likely to harm GSAA's reputation

6. Privacy

6.1 GSAA may record any information posted to Social Media platforms operated by GSAA and may use that information for the purpose of administering such Social Media platforms or any other purpose consistent with GSAA's objectives.

6.2 GSAA strongly recommends that all members protect their own personal privacy by not including personal information in social media communications (eg email addresses, residential addresses, or telephone numbers)