



## Whittlesea Junior Basketball Association Social Media/Mobile Phone Policy Implemented May 2021

The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidelines for the use of mobile phones and social media sites by all members of Whittlesea Junior Basketball Association (WJBA). Members include players, coaches, committee members and spectators.

It relates specifically to the use of social media to make comment in a context that is identifiable as being in relation to WJBA. This includes comments or implied comments regarding:

- Games or Association events;
- Team or player performance;
- Individuals with a direct context or mention of their role with WJBA such as officials and referees;
- WJBA as an Association.

### **Use of Social Media**

What you post will be broadcast across a wide audience and therefore you must be mindful of how your comments will be interpreted by more than just your closest friends. You must be prepared for your posts to be seen by the persons you are referring to, your team mates, your players, your coach, parents, siblings and of course the committee.

### **WJBA Social Media - Code of Conduct**

1. All comments, notes or photos posted on social media sites in relation to WJBA and its members are to be constructive or positive in their nature.
2. Always ensure that you do not post material that is vulgar, obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, discriminatory or hateful.
3. It is your responsibility to be respectful at all times on social media. You are expected to show the same respect and regard for people that you would when playing, officiating or attending a basketball game.
4. Do not use social media to be critical of teammates, coaches, officials, administrators, volunteers or spectators. Negative comments and images, bullying, criticism and sexist remarks can be dangerous and harmful to people's wellbeing and reputation and the image of individuals and WJBA.
6. Use social media as a positive outlet to promote players, teammates, teams, clubs and others involved in basketball. WJBA has a page on Facebook for members to interact with. Posting results and acknowledging individual and team performances on social media makes many people aware of team and individual achievements. That can have a positive effect for many people and should be used, encouraged and embraced wherever and whenever possible.
7. WJBA does not tolerate or condone poor social media behaviour or actions. If you are aware of or observe poor social media behaviour or actions, do not accept it. There is no place for it in basketball and it will not be condoned. You should remind people of their responsibilities when using social media and warn that action can be taken against them. In the instance of minors breaching the code of conduct, alert their parents to the situation. If you believe the breach is serious, report it to team, club or association officials.

### **Mobile Phones/devices**

In an attempt to protect all junior players from breaching the above guidelines or becoming victim to social media wrong doing, WJBA prohibit players from conducting any form of photography, video or audio footage while attending any basketball activities affiliated to or conducted by WJBA.

### **Consequences**

Your actions on social media may have serious consequences. Negative comments and images, bullying, criticism and sexist or derogatory remarks not only impact negatively on the people they are about, they reflect badly on yourself, your parents and the people you represent. If you are found to have acted improperly on social media by breaching any of the WJBA code of conduct requirements or guidelines above regarding a basketball related matter, you will be required to face a hearing of the WJBA Executive or WJBA Tribunal to explain your actions. Through such hearings, disciplinary action may be imposed such as suspension or deregistration from WJBA.