Swimmers Social Media Policy

PURPOSE:

1. North Dublin Winter Swimming Club NDWSC recognises that the use of networking sites is a growing phenomenon and is increasingly used as a communication tool of choice by young people and increasingly more adults. The use of social media provides many opportunities to improve the way we communicate reach out and interact with people and other groups.

2. With the development of Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms, it has highlighted that whilst these technologies provide exciting opportunities, they are accompanied by dangers and negative consequences, if abused by users.

3. This policy will provide guidelines for acceptable use for all on-line social networking communications as they relate to NDWSC

TECHNOLOGIES:

1. This policy includes (but is not limited to) the following technologies.

• Personal Blogs

• Twitter

• Facebook

• Instagram

• You Tube

• Message Boards

• Personal Websites

ACCEPTABLE USE: The following rules must be adhered to by all users:-

SAFETY

1. Use the internet positively and do not place yourself at risk.

(Please consider who you are inviting to be your friend and follow the good advice of the social networking sites to ensure you are talking to the person you believe you are talking to)

2. You will not bully, intimidate, or harass any user.

3. You will not post any photographs, videos or make comments that may be hurtful, untrue and upsetting or may be used by other people in a way you did not intend or want.

(Please be aware that social networking sites are a method of communication like letter writing and the spoken word. Do not write comments in the “heat of the moment” as these may be misinterpreted or used in a way you did not intend. So never place a comment on the internet that you would not put in writing or say to the individual concerned)

4. You will not post content that is hateful, threatening, or pornographic, incites violence, or contains nudity or graphic or gratuitous violence.

5. You will not post any information that contains alcohol-related or other mature content (including advertisements)

PROTECTING OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

1. We will respect other people's rights, and expect you to do the same.

2. You will not write any derogatory or offensive comments in relation to NDWSC or any other swimming or water polo club.

3. You will not post comments criticising or verbally abusing swimmers, players, coaches, officials or members of NDWSC or any other swimming or water polo club.

4. You will not post photographs on the NDWSC Social Media sites as you may be in breach of the Club's Photography Policy. This is an information sharing facility, and does not replace NDWSC Website.

5. You will not post content or take any action on NDWSC Social Media sites that infringes or violates someone else's rights or otherwise violates the law

6. Do not ask your club coach or teacher to be your social networking site friend – they will refuse as that would breach good practice.

7. Use the internet positively and do not place yourself at risk. Have a look at www.ceop.gov.uk for some useful tips.

8. Consider who you are inviting to be your friend and follow the good advice of the social networking sites to ensure you are talking to the person you believe you are talking to.

9. Always consider that any communication, comments, photos and video clips posted on a social networking site may be shared with persons other than those for whom it was intended.

10. Never share pictures of yourself or your friends that might reach other people that you do not wish to see them. Also never post or send any photographs, videos or make comments that may be:

• hurtful, untrue and upsetting and you may regret sharing later on

• used by other people in a way you did not intend or want.

11. Do not put pictures of other club members on the site within the club setting as you may breach the SI Photography Guidance. If you do wish to upload a picture you must get advice and consent of your parent, the other young person and their parent and a club officer before even considering uploading a photo. This will not prevent you having pictures of your swimming friends on your site taken outside of the sporting arena but it is good advice to always ensure they and their parents are happy with any picture you have of them on your site.

12. Always be aware that social networking sites are a method of communication like letter writing and the spoken word. They are bound by the same laws and rules. Such technology is instant and this allows you as the user to react in the ‘heat of the moment’, where in the past you would have been required to write a letter, which would have taken time and allowed for you to think again before sending. So never place a comment on the internet that you would not put in writing or say to the individual concerned face to face as to do so may not only breach SI but also the law

13. Photography and articles are supplied to swimmers and their families for their enjoyment on our Website, our Facebook Page and other approved sites as detailed in Appendix 2.

Photographs MAY be used by the swimmer or their family provided they are in the photograph, where multiple people are in a photograph all parties are allowed use the photo within reason.

YOU MAY crop, change the photo to black and white or use as is provided you are in it, this has always been the case and © Copyright has been waived only in this instance by the approved photographers (Appendix 2). A photograph may be given by you to a School website/publication for use, again this permission has been granted to you.

YOU MAY NOT share a photo through any media or printed copy that is not yours without prior permission or add a caption to a photograph that contains more than yourself that may ridicule, upset or cause undue embarrassment to another person, this will be seen by NDWSC as BULLYING and will be dealt with accordingly and may result in expulsion from the club.

A photograph of you that you may not be happy with that appears in any of the above media spaces belonging to NDWSC or other approved sites can be requested to be removed and will be done without question at the first available opportunity following the request.

All Artistic © Copyright will remain with the Photographer or Writer of an Article for their lifetime and 70 years after death by their family under Irish Copyright Law, there are penalties for infringement of same. A photograph for use in any other way, i.e. Advertisement will need the express written permission of the photographer or writer in advance.

SETTING UP ACCOUNTS

1. You will not provide any false information on NDWSC Social networking sites, or create an account for anyone other than yourself without permission.

2. You will not use NDWSC Social networking sites if you are less than 13 years of age.

CONSEQUENCES OF ACTIONS

Any individual found to be in breach of this Policy may face disciplinary action in accordance with the Club's Disciplinary, Grievance and Complaints Procedures.

MANAGEMENT OF NDWSC SOCIAL NETWORKING MEDIA SITES

To ensure that the sites are used in good spirit and to the benefit of the club, NDWSC 's social networking sites will be managed and monitored by the Webmaster and the Executive of the Committee.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS

1. As a user of social networking sites, whether you are a child or an adult, you may at some time have a concern about what you are seeing or being told about by another user.

2. The nature of these concerns may vary but should these concerns be connected to NDWSC. Then please contact one of the Children’s Club Officers or one of the Executive named in APPENDIX 1.

Appendix 1

Contacts

If you have concerns regarding the content or use of the social media sites please do not hesitate to contact the persons below.

Webmaster : -

Executive :- Chairperson

: - Club Secretary

: - Club Treasurer

Club Children’s Officer : -

Designated Person : -

Appendix 2

Approved sites : - NDWSC Web page

NDWSC on Facebook