



# **Old Silhillians Hockey Club**

## Facebook and Social Networking Policy For Parents

**May 2023**

## 1. **BACKGROUND**

1.1 Old Silhillians Hockey Club (OSHC) recognises that the use of networking sites is a growing phenomenon and is increasingly used as a communication tool choice by young people and more recently by adults.

1.2 With the development of our own Facebook page, it has highlighted that whilst these technologies provide exciting opportunities, they are accompanied by dangers and negative consequences, if abused by users.

1.3 This policy will set down guidelines for acceptable use, not only for our own Facebook page, but all on-line social networking communications as they relate to OSHC.

## 2. **TECHNOLOGIES**

1.1 This policy includes (but is not limited to) the undernoted technologies:-

- Personal blogs
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Instagram
- TikTok
- SnapChat
- You Tube
- Personal Web Sites

## 3. **ACCEPTABLE USE**

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

### 3.2. Safety

- i) You or your child will **not** bully, intimidate, or harass any user.
- iii) You or your child 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.
- iii) You or your child will **not** post content that is hateful, threatening, or pornographic; incites violence; or contains nudity or graphic or gratuitous violence.
- iv) You or your child will **not** post any information that contains alcohol-related or other mature content (including advertisements)

### 3.4. Protecting Other People's Rights

- i) We respect other people's rights, and expect you to do the same.
- ii) You or your child will **not** write any derogatory or offensive comments in relation to OSHC or any other hockey club.

- iii) You or your child will **not** post comments criticising or verbally abusing players, coaches, officials or Members of OSHC or any other hockey Club.
- iii) You or your child will **not** post photographs on the OSHC Facebook page as you may be in breach of the Club's Photography Policy. This is an information sharing facility only and does not replace the OSHC website.
- iii) You or your child will **not** post content or take any action on OSHC Facebook that infringes or violates someone else's rights or otherwise violates the law.

### 3.3 OSHC Facebook Registration

- i) You will **not** provide any false information on OSHC facebook, or create an account for anyone other than yourself without permission.
- ii) You will **not** allow your child to use OSHC facebook if they are under 13 years of age.

### 3.5. Consequences of Actions

- i) Parents should be aware that posting messages, comments or any media on a social networking site that breaches the above requirements will breach the Parent's Code of Conduct.
- ii) 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.

### 3.6. "Friending" policy

- i) All of our Coaches have been advised NOT to become "Friends" with any Players Under the age of 18 on Facebook; PLEASE ensure that your Children do not take offence at being Turned Down / Rejected by our Coaches if they try to befriend any of the coaches.

## 4. MANAGEMENT OF OSHC FACEBOOK PAGE

- 4.1 To ensure that the site is used in good spirit and to the benefit of the Club, OSHC Facebook page will be managed and monitored by Stephen Tabb, Facebook Administrator & Welfare Officer.

## 5. **SOCIAL NETWORKING SERVICES, SOCIAL MEDIA AND SPORT: GUIDELINES FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

5.1 The Child Protection in Sport Unit Briefing Document "Social networking services, social media and sport: Guidelines for safeguarding children and young people" gives more in depth guidance on social networking sites. It can be accessed via the Child Protection in Sport Unit website at [www.cpsu.org.uk](http://www.cpsu.org.uk).

## **6. WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS**

6.1 As a user of a social networking site, 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.

6.2 The nature of these concerns may vary but should these concerns be connected to OSHC then please contact:

- Stephen Tabb, OSHC Facebook Administrator & Club Welfare Officer

6.3 Alternatively, depending on the nature of your concerns, a list of agencies that you can contact, anonymously if you wish, where you or your child can raise such concerns has been provided below:-

- The Child Exploitation online Protection Unit (CEOP) at [www.ceop.gov.uk](http://www.ceop.gov.uk) or by pressing the CEOP button on Facebook
- [www.childnet.org.uk](http://www.childnet.org.uk) which is a NSPCC support service specifically for young people.
- [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) is another NSPCC support service. Using this website, children can talk confidentially to NSPCC advisors online about any issues or problems they may be experiencing, using an application similar to Instant Messenger (IM). Stop It Now freephone 0808 1000 900.
- The Local Police or Children's Services – their number appears in the phone book.
- The NSPCC helpline 0800 800 5000 or [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) for adults concerned about the welfare or safety of a child.
- The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) [www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk) The IWF was established by the internet industry to provide a UK internet hotline which can be anonymous for the public and IT professionals to report criminal online content in a secure and confidential way.