SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY GLHC

The purpose of this policy is to protect club members, minimise risk and ensure GLHC social media is used appropriately. This policy covers all members of Gravesend Ladies Hockey Club.

1.0 THE KEY MESSAGE IS: Think before you post!

• Posts on GLHC social media or media linked to GLHC social media, be it photos, comments or links should not be inappropriate.

• Users must not engage in activities or transmit content that is harassing, discriminatory, menacing, threatening, obscene, defamatory, or in any way objectionable or offensive.

• Users are personally responsible for what they communicate in social media and should remember that what they publish may be available to a wide audience over a lengthy period of time.

• Users should not post comments which could be construed as sensitive, objectionable or inflammatory.

• When using social media, users should respect their audience.

• Users should not engage in any inappropriate chat with young members.

• Users should not criticise a player’s performance or skill development or make a personal attack on any player, umpire, official club or any other person or body which could bring the game or GLHC into disrepute.

• Inappropriate, derogatory or defamatory remarks or unseemly language should never be used

Remember, the term ‘young person’ means those under 18 years old.

Anyone who finds a post inappropriate or wishes to make a complaint should email details andreakitchener@gmail.com Andrea Kitchener (Chairperson/Welfare Officer)

2.0 SANCTIONS

• Comments that are deemed to flout the above will be removed by the administrators and the person who posted will be informed.

• Destructive or negative uses will be deleted/blocked from engaging with the club’s facebook page, twitter account or website.

• Any GLHC member who persistently posts inappropriate content will be dealt with by GLHC’s disciplinary committee.

• The GLHC Designated Officer will be informed of any matters relating to young or vulnerable people and deal with the post as appropriate.

• Issues relating to adults and the reputation of GLHC will be referred to the disciplinary committee.

3.0 CONTROLS OVER CLUB SPECIFIC SOCIAL MEDIA

3.1 GLHC Facebook, Twitter, Whatsapp, Instagram and Website

• GLHC uses a Twitter, Facebook and the Website www.gravesendlhc.co.uk to represent the Club to the outside world, catering for prospective and current members as well as providing information for other clubs and general browsers seeking knowledge about GLHC.

• Material published on these mediums is strictly controlled by members of the Committee.

• Comments and photos/videos posted will feature positive club news and events.

• Personal information about members will not be disclosed.

• No statements will be made that are misleading, false or likely to injure the reputation of another person/club.

4.0 COMMUNICATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

Communication with young or vulnerable people.

The key Do’s and Don’ts when communicating with young people are:

• Contact players only when necessary

• Use Group texts for communication among players and inform parents of this at the outset of the season

Avoid:

• Contacting a young person unnecessarily and having one-to-one communication with individual young players. (but this can be done as part of a disclosed list, once permission has been gained to do so)

• Using text or a social networking site as a medium of contact with a young person

• Making or receiving calls on a mobile phone during training or at competition (coach). It is inappropriate to compromise the safety of a session

• E-mailing one young person without copying in parents, other players or club members

• Do not use your phone in certain situations – inappropriate use of a camera phone may cause offence/upset someone.

**THIS POLICY HAS BEEN CREATED WITH THE GUIDANCE OF ENGLAND HOCKEY**