

ASHFORD CC SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY



As part of our ongoing commitment to the welfare of our players, the Club would like to set out some guidelines for members on their use of social media. The ECB already recommends that club officials should not have direct contact by text or e-mail with any player under 16, and with those between 16 and 18 only with the permission of the parent/guardian, as long as they are also copied into the communication. The official also should not become a social media “friend”, “follower”, etc. of any player under 18. It is the Club's view that it would be wise for all members to follow these guidelines, for the protection of everyone. If a member chooses to go ahead with a social media friendship with someone under 18, they must be mindful that everything posted will be available to that junior, and must therefore be age appropriate.

The Club can only make recommendations to members – parents are reminded that they need to be aware of their child's online and text contacts, and remain vigilant.

Juniors will also need to be made aware of these guidelines so that they understand why adult players who may be team mates do not, for example, want to be Facebook friends.

CLUB TWITTER AND FACEBOOK POSTS

It is the view of the committee that anything posted under the Club name, and therefore officially representing Ashford Cricket Club, must meet certain standards. Especially with Twitter, anything posted or retweeted is available for other clubs and potential new members to see, and it will be expected to reflect the image of the Club as a safe and friendly place to play cricket, with a competitive but fair attitude to the game.

Posts must be:

- Factual, and not biased by the writer's opinion
- Not offensive to anyone
- Not inflammatory, or intended to cause or add to dispute

Players are free to post opinions on personal social media sites, and the Club would expect the same standards of behaviour already set down in the Member's Code of Conduct.

Before the start of each season, the access passwords to the Club accounts will be changed. Any member wishing to post on the accounts must first sign up to these guidelines before the password is issued. The accounts will be reviewed throughout the season, and if the committee feels that they are being abused, the passwords will be changed and access restricted.

The Club accounts are:

Facebook – Ashford Cricket Club

Twitter - @AshfordCricket
@ashfordladiescc

