

NORTHERN IRELAND FIELD ARCHERY ASSOCIATION

Social Networking Policy

The Northern Ireland Field Archery Association (NIFAA) realise that social media and networking websites have now become the 'norm' in everyday life and that many people enjoy membership of Social Networking sites such as Facebook etc. However, the Northern Ireland Field Archery Association Committee is also aware that these sites can become a negative forum for complaining or expressing negative opinions, sometimes even criticising the actions of third parties in a public forum, therefore care must be taken to avoid any breach of the NIFAA Constitution and indeed the law of our land.

This Policy has been designed to give all Officers, Club Officials and Archers clear guidelines as to what is expected of them when accessing these sites.

The absence of, or lack of explicit reference to any specific website or service does not limit the extent of the application of this Policy. Where no Policy or guidelines exist regarding a particular situation, Officers, Club Officials and Archers should use their own judgement and act in a cautious manner.

General Guidance

If a Representative of the Association Committee is operating a 'Personal Profile' on any of the Social Media sites, care must be taken to ensure that they are satisfied that the material shared on that profile does NOT undermine their position on the Committee. Also, remember that any and all comments/content of a derogatory nature can be used in all disciplinary actions including cases in law.

As a basic rule, **THINK BEFORE YOU POST!**

Some people find that these Social Media sites allow them to express themselves in a manner not normally in their nature, if this is the case consider changing your 'account settings' to the following:

1. Changing the privacy setting on their profile so that only people that you have accepted as friends can see your comments.
2. Review who is on your 'friends list' on your personal profile. In most situations you should not accept 'friends requests' if you do not actually know the person(s) concerned.
3. Ensuring personal blogs have clear disclaimers that the views expressed are personal and not representative of the NIFAA.
4. Ensure that information published on social media sites is not inflammatory or derogatory to others, or in breach of the laws governing Libel and Slander.

Every Member of the Northern Ireland Field Archery Association must ensure that they are respectful to:

- Their fellow archers and members of the Northern Ireland Field Archery Association.
- All Parents and families of Archers regardless of which Governing Body they are affiliated to.
- All Sporting organisations regardless of their chosen sport.
- All people in general.

Use of Official Social Media Sites:

The Northern Ireland Field Archery Association (NIFAA) operates a social media site on Facebook solely for the promotion of NIFAA Archery events and news that may be of interest to our members. It is limited to.

1. Advertising NIFAA events.
2. Advertising archery equipment for sale by members.
3. Posting personal achievements.
4. Items of interest to NIFAA Members.
5. Submitting posts regarding NIFAA or affiliated Club events such as Photographs or reports.
6. Displaying Scores of NIFAA events.

The following outlines the limits as to the use of Social Media relating to NIFAA:

- An account relating to The Northern Ireland Field Archery Association (NIFAA) on any social media website may only be set up with the written consent of the NIFAA Committee.
- Only members of The Northern Ireland Field Archery Association may post on the NIFAA account.
- Each member of the NIFAA will be granted access to the Facebook account by the administrator(s) on request.
- All posts to the NIFAA Facebook account will be monitored by the administrator(s) who have the right to remove any such post they consider unsuitable for display or derogatory in any manner and may 'Block' that person from further access to the site after reporting the matter to the NIFAA Committee and seeking approval.
- All information published on the official NIFAA account must comply with the Constitution of the Association.
- All members must bear in mind all matters relating to the Policy for Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults and Data Protection Policy.
- All Archers, especially junior archers should not be referred to without their consent or that of the parent or guardian. This will include all photographs, videos, and media material.

- Copyright laws must be respected at all times.

Any Archer who becomes aware of any social media networking activity that could be deemed distasteful, derogatory or in breach of the Constitution, this Code of Conduct, or the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy must make it known to the NIFAA Chairman, Honorary Secretary and/or the NIFAA Safeguarding Officer immediately.

All Officers, Club Officials and Archers must adhere to all of the above Policy guidelines; breach of this Social Networking Policy will result in disciplinary action which may include the termination of the membership of the individual(s).

Please note that any Officer, Club Official or Archer making slanderous, derogatory, or inflammatory remarks may also put themselves at risk of legal proceedings.

Any member of the Northern Ireland Field Archery Association Committee, Club Officials or Archers can be prosecuted under the following Articles of Criminal Law relating to cyber bullying:

- Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.
- Malicious Communications (Northern Ireland) Order 1988.
- The Communications Act 2003.

The Police Service for Northern Ireland (PSNI) also aims to provide Children, Young People, Vulnerable Adults, parents, and carers with appropriate support where any form of bullying occurs. It is important that ALL incidents are reported immediately to the PSNI where children are victims of cyber bullying to ensure that the matter is addressed appropriately and the cyber bullying ceases.

Approved by Committee and recorded accordingly.

Dated: MARCH 2016.