

Social Media – Basing Royals Youth F.C.

Hi all

I would like to share the official FA understanding what can and cannot be done on social media without breaching the Rules.

‘Social Media’ is defined as Facebook, Twitter, Blogging, etc.

Social Media Facts

- 85% children go online at home
- 50% + children go online via a mobile device
- 73% are used to watching video clips
- 72% partake in social networking
- 57% have their own SNS profile
- 29% have made their profile public.

Twitter

- All comments are public
- Would you say it on MOTD?
- Would you want your mum to read it in the papers?

Facebook

- Think about Privacy settings
- People in your group - are they really your friends?
- There is no reasonable expectation of privacy

How are incidents reported to The FA?

- The media
- Members of the public
- The participants

What not to say

Comments which:

- Are improper
- Bring the game into disrepute
- Are abusive, indecent and/or insulting
- Make direct or indirect threats
- Are about a Match Official which imply bias, attack their integrity and/or are overly personal in nature

Aggravating Factors

References to a person's:

- Ethnic origin
- Colour
- Race
- Nationality
- Faith
- Gender/Gender reassignment
- Sexual orientation
- Disability

Referee Examples

"Wouldn't it be nice to get referees with balls the size of melons instead of peanuts sometimes? Another home ref today".

(From a Club Chairman)

"So f****d off its crazy....if I knew where that ref lived id go there and smash his arrogant face in...#cheating b*****d".

(From a Player)

"The referee is in a good position but doesn't give it. We have been let down by the referee once again. We do not like it when the referee messes up, but there is little we can do about it".

(From a Manager)

Possible outcomes from comments within the Social Media

Actions:

Charge
Warning
Reminder

Sanctions:

- Warning
- Fine
- Suspension
- Touchline/Stadium Ban
- Permanent Exclusion

Running a Football Web-site:

Do

Appoint an appropriate adult

Make sure everybody knows who is responsible

Remember your club/league is responsible

Regularly monitor the content and base content on FA Codes of Conduct

Don't

Post children's or young people's details

Place pictures without permission

Post details that can lead to identification

Post items of a discriminatory, abusive, or offensive nature

NSPCC Net Aware

- <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>
- Your Guide to Social network sites your children use

Let me know if you have any queries.

Thanks

Andy