



LESC Social Media Policy

PURPOSE:

1. Long Eaton Swimming Club (L.E.S.C.) recognises that the use of networking sites is a growing phenomenon and is increasingly used as a communication tool of choice by young people and increasingly more adults. The use of social media provides many opportunities to improve the way we communicate, reach out and interact with people and other groups.
2. With the development of our own Facebook page and Twitter account, it has highlighted that whilst these technologies provide exciting opportunities, they are accompanied by dangers and negative consequences, if abused by users.
3. This policy will provide guidelines for acceptable use, not only for our own Facebook page and Twitter account, but all on-line social networking communications as they relate to L.E.S.C.

TECHNOLOGIES:

1. This policy includes (but is not limited to) the following technologies.
 - L.E.S.C Blog
 - Website
 - Twitter
 - Facebook
 - My Space
 - Bebo
 - You Tube
 - Message Boards

ACCEPTABLE USE:

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

SAFETY

1. Use the internet positively and do not place yourself at risk.
2. You will not bully, intimidate, or harass any user.
3. You 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.
4. Please be aware that social networking sites are a method of communication like letter writing and the spoken word. Do not write comments in the "heat of the moment" as these may be misinterpreted or used in a way you did not intend. So never place a comment on the internet that you would not put in writing or say to the individual concerned.

5. You will not post content that is hateful, threatening, or pornographic; incites violence; or contains nudity or graphic or gratuitous violence.
6. You will not post any information that contains alcohol-related or other mature content (including advertisements)
7. You will not post content that contains swear words or other language likely to offend
8. Members under the age of 18 must not ask their coach to be their friend on any social networking site.
9. Should a young person request to become 'friends' via your personal social networking site, you should decline if you hold a position of responsibility at the club. This does not apply if the member is aged over 16 and is a young coach or teacher or to your own child.
10. LESC recognises that many young coaches aged between 18 and 21 will have been members themselves before becoming a coach and have been friends with their fellow members, some of whom will be between the ages of 16 and 17. LESC accepts it would be inappropriate to require such friends to be removed from their social networking sites.
11. Parents who work at LESC should not accept their child's friends as friends on their own social networking site.
12. Coaches and teachers should not personally hold the mobile phone numbers or e-mail addresses belonging to young members of the organisation.

PROTECTING OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

1. We will respect other people's rights, and expect you to do the same.
2. You will not write any derogatory or offensive comments in relation to L.E.S.C. or any other swimming club.
3. You will not post comments criticising or verbally abusing swimmers, coaches, officials or members of L.E.S.C. or any other swimming club.
4. You will not post content or take any action on L.E.S.C. Social Media sites that infringes or violates someone else's rights or otherwise violates the law.
5. You will not use L.E.S.C. Social networking sites if you are less than 13 years of age.

CONSEQUENCES OF ACTIONS

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.

The Chairman or his nominated representative reserves the right to delete posts violating the code of conduct.

Members will be excluded from the group if they post items that cause embarrassment to members or breach the Code of Conduct.

MANAGEMENT OF L.E.S.C. SOCIAL NETWORKING MEDIA SITES

To ensure that the sites are used in good spirit and to the benefit of the club, Long Eaton Swimming Club's social networking sites will be managed and monitored by the L.E.S.C. Committee and will be in accordance with Wavepower.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS

As a user of social networking sites, 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.

The nature of these concerns may vary but should these concerns be connected to L.E.S.C. Then please contact the Chairman or the Welfare Officer.