

WESTSIDE GYMNASTICS

Social Media Policy

This Policy sets out how staff, coaches and volunteers at Westside Gymnastics use social media, to protect children

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Purpose

This Policy sets out how staff, coaches and volunteers at Westside Gymnastics use social media, to protect children from harm and maintain appropriate professional boundaries online.

Scope

This Policy applies to all staff, coaches, judges, volunteers and contractors, in relation to both official Westside Gymnastics social media accounts and their personal social media use as it relates to gymnasts and their families.

Official Club Accounts

- Official Westside Gymnastics social media accounts are managed by an authorised staff member, with access limited and passwords kept securely;
- Content posted must comply with the Media Policy (see companion document) for consent and use of images of children; and
- Comments on official accounts are monitored, and inappropriate comments are removed and, where relevant, reported.

Personal Social Media Use

Staff, coaches and volunteers must not:

- Send or accept friend/follow requests to or from a gymnast under 18 on a personal account;
- Contact a gymnast under 18 via direct or private message on any personal social media platform;
- Post content that could be seen as grooming, favouritism, or inappropriate familiarity with a specific child; or
- Share photos or information about a specific gymnast on a personal account without the club's and parent/guardian's consent.

Staff, coaches and volunteers are encouraged to use privacy settings that limit a young person's ability to view or contact them personally, and should direct any gymnast who contacts them personally back to official club channels and inform the Child Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officer.

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Official Club Communication with Gymnasts and Families

Where a club program (e.g. a squad group chat) is used to communicate with gymnasts and/or families, a parent/guardian must be included for any gymnast under 18, and at least one other adult staff member must also be part of the group, in line with the Written Communication Policy.

Responding to a Breach

A breach of this Policy is treated as a breach of the Code of Conduct and reported and managed in accordance with the Child Safe Complaints Handling Procedure.

Related Policies and Procedures

- Child Safe Code of Conduct
- Written Communication Policy
- Media Policy
- Child Safe Complaints Handling Procedure