

ROCKFORD AREA HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The Rockford Area High School Hockey organization understands and appreciates the importance of social networking as it relates to its members' and stakeholders' personal and professional lives. This immediate and public forum provides unique opportunities for networking and promotion; however, it also provides an unsupervised medium for inappropriate conduct. This conduct may be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the Rockford Area High School Hockey and its membership, not in the game's best interests. Rockford Area High School Inc. holds its entire membership that participates in online social networking to the same standards as it would with all forms of communication, including television, radio, and print.

These policies are designed to protect all parties from harassment, bullying, stalking, inappropriate contact, or behavior, however they are intended.

The following are some examples of behavior in online social networking mediums that will result in appropriate disciplinary action at the discretion of the organization's Rules and Ethics Committee:

- Posting or divulging confidential information that includes but is not limited to members' personal information, contact information, medical conditions, injuries, and other sensitive matters pertinent to Rockford Area High School Hockey and its membership.
- Posting negative or derogatory comments about any of RAHSH or competing programs' staff, members, stakeholders, or program participants.
- Posting photographs, videos, or comments regarding fights, penalties, or other in-game incidents.
- Posting photographs, videos, or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior, including but not limited to drug use, alcohol abuse, public intoxication, sexual exploitation, etc.
- Participating in any online activity that contradicts the current policies of RAHSH.
- Posting any inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments contradictory to RAHSH policies on these matters.

Rockford Area High School Hockey members should always assume that they are representing RAHSH. Members are expected to demonstrate discretion and respect over these sites; if a photo or comment would be inappropriate for all other forms of media, then it should be considered inappropriate for online social networking sites. The RAHSH Rules and Ethics Committee will review any material, comments, or actions through these portals deemed inappropriate for possible sanctions up to and including suspension and expulsion from the program.

Additionally, RAHSH will implement USA Hockey's new and innovative Social Media, Mobile, and Electronic Communications policy, as outlined in the SafeSport Handbook.

Lastly, all postings on any websites or social media accounts associated with the RAHSH program must be reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors prior to publication. This policy ensures that all content is consistent with the program's values, mission, and public image. Any unauthorized postings will be subject to review and may result in disciplinary action.