

Springfield Youth Hockey Association (SYHA)- Illinois

Social Media Policy

Springfield Youth Hockey Association (“SYHA”) recognizes the importance of the Internet in shaping the public’s perception of our organization. SYHA also recognizes the importance of our Board members, executive directors, sport coordinators, sport committee members, coaches, employees, volunteers, parents (or guardians), and players in leading and setting the tone of social media interactions in a manner that advances SYHA’s mission and goals.

Mission Statement

The Springfield Youth Hockey Association (SYHA) aims to foster and teach good sportsmanship and fair play in individual as well as team competition through the promotion, organization and operation of hockey programs for youth players of the Greater Springfield area.

Applicability

This Social Media Policy applies to all Board members, executive directors, sport coordinators, sport committee members, coaches, employees, volunteers, parents (or guardians), and players (“SYHA Members”). This Social Media Policy applies to all social media content posted by SYHA Members in their professional and personal capacity to the extent such content is related to SYHA.

Aspirations

SYHA strives to create a positive and inclusive organization that is dedicated to helping young athletes reach their potential. In furtherance of this goal, SYHA aspires to engage members of the Springfield and surrounding communities in positive, honest, transparent, and knowledgeable dialogue about SYHA through social media. SYHA views social media as an important tool for communicating its successes and opportunities for athletic and individual development. SYHA also views social media as a platform for receiving constructive feedback

from the community and for discussing SYHA's challenges and opportunities for improvement in a positive and constructive way.

Guidelines

All SYHA Members shall abide by the following guidelines when using social media:

1. Be positive and respectful, and always take the high road. When disagreeing with others' opinions or actions, remain appropriate and polite. If you find yourself in a situation online that is becoming antagonistic, ask the SYHA Board of Directors or your sport coordinator for advice on how to disengage from the dialogue in a polite and respectful manner that reflects well on SYHA.
2. Do not post content that would harm SYHA or damage SYHA's reputation. Remember that even while you are on your own personal time and/or personal social media accounts, you are a representative of SYHA, and people may interpret your online postings or social interactions as though they were official SYHA statements.
3. Use good judgment when posting comments on any official SYHA sites. Bear in mind that your comments can create liability for SYHA. If you are unsure whether a comment is appropriate to post, either do not post it or obtain prior approval from the Board of Directors.
4. Be smart about what you publish. Once something is posted, it exists online forever. Ask yourself, "would I want to see this published in the newspaper or posted on a billboard tomorrow or ten years from now?" or "Would I want someone saying this about yourself, your player, or your team?". If the answer is "no," do not post.
5. Encourage others to engage in positive interactions on social media. If you are concerned about any SYHA Member's use of social media, please bring your concerns to the attention of your sport coordinator or a member of the SYHA Board of Directors.
6. Personally identifiable information (information, such as a name and date of birth and/or a street address which, when taken together, can identify a particular individual) should not be disclosed in any manner on official SYHA social networking or personal social networking sites without the approval of the sport coordinator or SYHA Board of

Directors.

7. Do not post comments on another organizations social media networking sites. Bear in mind that your comments can create liability for SYHA. As SYHA monitors our social media networking sites for appropriate content, other organizations do the same and such comments could be seen as a form of harassment.

Violations of the Social Media Policy

The SYHA Board of Directors shall have the authority to monitor and enforce this Social Media Policy. The SYHA Board of Directors, and any individual appointed by the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to remove any inappropriate or offensive comments from official SYHA sites and to block any individual or organization from posting on any official SYHA social media platform if they determine, in their sole discretion, that such removal or block is in the best interests of SYHA. It also has the authority to ask any SYHA Member to remove any inappropriate or offensive comments from personal social media networking sites that it determines not in the best interest of the organization.

The failure of any SYHA Member to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be considered a violation of the SYHA Code of Conduct, and any SYHA Member who fails to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of such individual's involvement in SYHA, in accordance with the SYHA Disciplinary Procedures.

Adopted by the SYHA Board of Directors on 05 August 2019.

Parent

Parent

Player Name

Date Signed