



Cloquet Amateur Hockey Association

Social Media & Electronic Communications Policy

Effective Date: September 21, 2025 *(to be reviewed annually)*

Approved By: Cloquet Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA) Board of Directors

1. Purpose

This policy establishes clear expectations for the appropriate use of social media and electronic communication within Cloquet Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA). It protects players, families, and volunteers by promoting safe, respectful, and professional conduct in all digital interactions.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all CAHA members, including:

- Players
- Parents and guardians
- Coaches and team staff
- Board members and volunteers

It covers all forms of electronic communication, including:

- Text messaging, group chats, and direct messages
- Email

- Social media platforms (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, X/Twitter, TikTok, Snapchat)
- Team communication apps (e.g., TeamSnap, SportsEngine, Crossbar, GroupMe, etc.)

3. General Guidelines

- Use good judgment when posting or sharing any content related to CAHA or its members.
- All communication should be respectful, constructive, and aligned with CAHA's values.
- Do not share confidential team information (e.g., lineups, injuries, disciplinary matters).
- Avoid language or imagery that is obscene, threatening, harassing, or discriminatory.

4. Coach-to-Player Communication

- Coaches may not engage in **private one-on-one digital communication** with a minor athlete.
- All communication must include **at least one other adult**, such as a parent or another coach (SafeSport-compliant).
- Group messages (e.g., via TeamSnap) are preferred.
- Coaches must use **professional tone and content** at all times.

Violations of these rules will be subject to disciplinary action and reported per SafeSport guidelines.

5. Player Conduct on Social Media

- Players are expected to represent CAHA positively online.
- Inappropriate content (e.g., bullying, profanity, alcohol, drugs, or sexually explicit posts) may result in disciplinary action.
- Players may not post photos or videos from inside the locker room.

6. Parent Conduct on Social Media

- Parents should not post critical or disparaging comments about coaches, players, officials, or other families.
- Concerns should be addressed through proper CAHA channels, not on public forums.
- Team-specific social media pages must be approved and monitored by a designated team manager or coach.

7. Enforcement & Reporting

- Suspected policy violations must be reported to the CAHA President or SafeSport Coordinator.
- Serious violations (e.g., grooming, harassment, threats) will be escalated to **USA Hockey SafeSport** and law enforcement as needed.
- Disciplinary action may include suspension or removal from CAHA participation.

8. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the CAHA Board and updated in accordance with evolving technology, SafeSport mandates, and Minnesota Hockey guidance.

This policy was presented to and approved by the CAHA Board of Directors on September 21, 2025, at its regular meeting.

By: Jeff Leno
Jeff Leno
President, CAHA Board of Directors

Date: 9-30-25