



## **MID FAIRFIELD CT STARS ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY POLICY**

The Mid Fairfield CT Stars organization acknowledges the widespread use of social media networking as it relates to the personal and professional lives of its members.<sup>1</sup> While social media provides an immediate and public forum of opportunities for networking and promotion, it also provides an unsupervised medium for inappropriate conduct to occur. Given that this conduct has the risk of being detrimental to the welfare of the Mid Fairfield CT Stars organization and its membership and not in the best interests of the game, the organization requires the following standards to be upheld when its members use social media.

Members of the Mid Fairfield CT Stars should assume at all times that they are representing the Mid Fairfield Connecticut Stars organization. Members are expected to demonstrate discretion and respect when using these media sites. Members are forbidden from posting anything that could be considered disparaging to the organization or its programs and teams, competing programs or teams, players, teammates, referees, coaches, managers or staff. Further, members are forbidden from any posts that are vulgar, sexual in nature, contain reference to alcohol or drugs, contain nudity or could reasonably be considered harassment, bullying, stalking or any other inappropriate contact or behavior, however they are intended. The Mid Fairfield CT Stars holds its entire membership who participate in online social media to the same standards as it would with all forms of communication including television, radio and print.

The following are some examples of unacceptable behavior on online social networking mediums (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat) that will result in appropriate disciplinary action at the discretion of the Mid Fairfield CT Stars Board of Directors.

- Posting or divulging confidential information that includes but is not limited to: member's personal information, contact information, medical conditions, injuries and/or other sensitive matters pertinent to Mid Fairfield CT Stars and its membership
- Posting negative or derogatory comments about any of Mid Fairfield CT Stars' or competing programs' staff, programs, members, stakeholders, or program participants
- Posting photographs, video 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 Mid Fairfield CT Stars
- Posting any inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments contradictory to Mid Fairfield CT Stars and USA Hockey's policies on these matters.

Any material, comments or actions through these mediums deemed inappropriate will be reviewed by the Mid Fairfield CT Stars Board of Directors for possible sanctions up to and including suspension and/or expulsion from the program. Should a possible violation occur at a time when a Board member is not available to review, a coach has the discretion to make a decision to bench a player until such time as the violation can be reviewed by the Board.

The Mid Fairfield CT Stars organization fully supports and will implement USA Hockey's Social Media, Mobile and Electronic Communications policy as outlined in the SafeSport handbook.

I acknowledge that I have read and fully understand the above information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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<sup>1</sup> A member is defined as people directly involved with the Mid Fairfield CT Stars organization, including players, coaches, team managers, team support staff, parents and administrative staff.