



## SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

The Hahndorf Netball Club (HNC) believes that every person who participates in sport has the right to participate in an environment that is fun, safe and healthy, and that these persons have the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

The HNC has an obligation and responsibility to provide a safe physical and emotional environment for our registered players, officials, umpires, coaches, club members, parents, spectators, sponsors and staff, and this responsibility is increasingly being linked to the internet and information and communication technologies, including those areas involving social media platforms.

The HNC supports the appropriate and acceptable use of Information and communication technologies for the benefit and use of its members.

The HNC does realise however, that use of these technologies can also facilitate anti-social, inappropriate and even illegal behaviour, and does not condone the use of Social Media platforms or technology systems for any use that breaches its Codes of Conduct or negatively. All players are given a permission form to complete to allow the HNC to publish photos on the club's Social Media tools however respect will be given to those not wishing to complete or sign.

### **Inappropriate Social Media Behaviour**

- Threatening or bullying comments via Social Media platforms or SMS.
- Criticism of players, officials, umpires, coaches or clubs.
- Harassment.
- Spreading of rumours.
- Publishing or sending of derogatory comments or photos.
- Teasing or being made fun of.
- Some requests for personal information.

### **Non-Compliance**

The HNC Committee may impose penalties on registered members for any use of a Social Media site, or Phone/SMS activity to convey material or information that is deemed inappropriate, has poorly reflected on the game of Netball or is considered in breach of the HNC Parents & Spectators & Player Codes of Conduct.

All members of the HNC must realise that in some cases, inappropriate use of Social Media platforms may subject the persons to criminal investigation by Police, and that publishing of false or misleading comments may result in defamation action being taken against the persons involved.

### **Reporting of Inappropriate Social Media Behaviour**

- Save and print copies of the offending material.
- Keep records of when offending material was published.
- Contact a member of the Committee or speak to your coach or team manager.
- Parents, be aware of, and discuss the use of Social Media platforms with your children.