



## SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY & GUIDELINES FOR TEAMS AND THEIR PLAYERS

Student-athletes and teams that play on National Field Hockey League teams are held in the highest regard and are seen as role models in the community. As leaders you have the responsibility to portray your team, university, National Field Hockey League and yourselves in a positive manner at all times.

Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites have increased in popularity globally, and are used by the majority of student-athletes and teams in the league in one form or another. Student-athletes and teams should be aware that third parties could easily access your profiles and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments and posters. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student-athlete, your team, your university and the NFHL.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posters showing the personal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco e.g., no holding cups, cans, shot glasses etc.
- Photos, videos, and comments that are of a sexual nature.
- Pictures, videos, comments or posters that condone drug-related activity.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or team (examples: derogatory comments regarding another institution; taunting comments aimed at a student-athlete, coach or team at another institution and derogatory comments against race and/or gender). No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, illegal drug use).
- Content online that would constitute a violation of NFHL or NCAA rules.

If a team or student-athlete's profile and its contents are found to be inappropriate in accordance with the above behaviors, the team will be subject to the following penalties:

1. Written warning
2. Penalties as determined by the officers of the NFHL, including but not limited to possible suspension of their team from the league.

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as the National Field Hockey League's.

By signing below you affirm that as a captain or coach, you understand the National Field Hockey League's Social Media Policy and Guidelines for Teams and Players and the requirements that must be adhered to as a NFHL team. Also, you affirm that failure by your team or any player on your team to adhere to this policy and guidelines may result in consequences that include suspension of your team from the NFHL.

School \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Role to team (Captain/Coach): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_