



Digital and Social Media Policy

Introduction

The Greystanes Junior Rugby League Football Club (JRLFC), the Greystanes Devils, is committed to providing a positive, respectful, and enjoyable environment for players, families, and supporters.

These guidelines apply to all Greystanes JRLFC players, officials, parents, supporters and volunteers who create or contribute to blogs, wikis, social networks, virtual worlds or any other kind of social media including Facebook, Instagram or YouTube. All of these are considered to be carriage services, and it is illegal to misuse them.

This Policy is also to be read in conjunction with the NSWRL Video and Photography Policy 2.27 (noting there is to be NO filming OF ANY junior rugby league games without written consent from NSWRL)

Social Media

- We expect everyone who participate in online commentary to understand and to follow these simple but important guidelines. These guidelines might sound strict but please keep in mind that our goal is simple: to ensure that all members of our community participate online in a RESPECTFUL way that protects and promotes all participants, your club and the junior leagues reputation, and of course follows the letter and spirit of the law.
- Postings should be family friendly and feature positive news. Do not post information in any format that may harm the reputation of any person or the reputation of your club or the junior league. Ask yourself whether you would be happy to have the post directed at you – if not, don't post it!
- Never use a public forum or social media outlet to criticise another participant. Abusive, discriminatory, intimidating or offensive statements will not be tolerated, and any such communication or online contact should be reported to the club secretary or junior league immediately.
- Watch your language – avoid swear words and profanity and remember that your sense of humour may not be shared by others. You should not make comments based on religion, politics, sex, sexuality or racial issues.

- REMEMBER that your comments can be seen by anyone, as these are viewed as being in the public domain, and a comment is not easy to erase once you commit to making it public. Therefore, you can be held accountable for anything you post. It is important to note that people who publish false or misleading comments about another person in the public domain may be liable for defamation. Both our club and the Junior League have Conduct Review Panels which have had to deal with individuals who choose to operate outside of these guidelines.
- When disagreeing with the opinion of others keep it appropriate and polite.
- It is inappropriate for adult officials to communicate on a one-on-one basis with players under the age of 18 via social media outlets.
- Adult officials should not have players under the age of 18 years as their “friends” on social networking sites if the primary reason for the relationship is not rugby league and they have a position of trust in relation to that young person.
- Any team-based site must have at least one Greystanes Executive Committee member on their group/page if/when requested & provide that member with access privileges if/when required.
- Officials should carefully consider what they post as some comments can be seen by friends of friends. This also applies to comments left on other people’s pages and the sharing of photographs. Consider your position as a role model in this area.
- In the event of a player under the age of 18 showing an official a text, instant message, image, email or posting that is considered being inappropriate for a child to have, the official must inform a club official or the junior league immediately.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Be smart about protecting yourself and your privacy. What you publish is widely accessible and will be around for a long time, so consider the content carefully. Google and Microsoft have long memories!
- Junior League participants (players and officials) who send inappropriate electronic communication or post inappropriate online content or comments regarding another junior league player, official or third party will be subject to disciplinary action by the Junior League Conduct Review Committee, Junior League Board of Management or the Greystanes JRLFC Committee.
- Remember – Pleading Ignorance of these rules is not an excuse!

Club Branding

- You must not use any of Greystanes JRLFC's logos, slogans or images that have been posted on our website or official Facebook Page without prior consent.
- You must not create either an official or unofficial Greystanes JRLFC presence using the club's logo or name without prior approval from the Greystanes JRLFC President or Secretary.
- You must not imply that you are authorised to speak on behalf of Greystanes JRLFC unless you have been given official authorisation to do so by the Greystanes JRLFC President or Secretary.
- Failure to adhere to the above may result in disciplinary action by the Junior League Conduct Review Committee or Junior League Board of Management.

Note: Below is an abridged version of the **NSWRL Video and Photography Policy** that forms part of this Policy

No person is permitted to video or distribute videos of or portions of games without written consent of the NSWRL. Unless you are an approved person you are not permitted to take photos, make recordings or film games or portions of games to be broadcast livestreamed disseminated or distributed any content.

The NRL requires individuals and Associations obtain permission from a Childs parent/guardian before taking an image of a child that is not their own. They should also make sure the parent/guardian understands how the Image will be used.