



Central Coast Touch Football Association

COMMUNICATION POLICY

Policy

This policy consults and abides by:

- Central Coast Touch Football Association Constitution.
- New South Wales Touch Football Association constitution, social media and coaching policies.
- Touch Football Australia Member Protection Policy
- Play by the Rules guidelines.

Our commitment

Electronic communication is essential for sharing club news and information with our members. Our communication will be timely, appropriate and related to club business.

What we will do

We use a range of electronic tools to communicate with our members.

Our communication will protect members' privacy, maintain clear boundaries and ensure that bullying and harassment does not occur.

A webmaster will be appointed to provide accountability and control over material published on our club's website and any related discussion groups or social media websites, such as Facebook and Instagram.

We will adhere to the New South Wales Touch Association Social Media Policy 2022.

Website

- Our website will include current information on competitions, social events, committees, policies, constitution, rules and by-laws.
- No offensive content or photos will be published.



Group chats, SMS and Email Communications

Committee members, coaches and team managers may use group chats such as WhatsApp, SMS and email to provide information about the competition, training, club-sanctioned social events and other club business, however:

Group Chats for Teams u20s and under

- If coaches wish to set up a group chat for under 20s and below, it will need three non playing adults in it (preferably coaches and managers).
- Parents of players under 18 are to be informed that this chat is being set up and can opt their child out if they want to. The parents are also to be offered the opportunity to be in the group chat.
- This chat is not to be the main form of communication. A parent chat must be set up for the purpose of sending information around training, injuries, game times etc. In some cases, send the same message to both chats if required. For 20s teams, players over 18 can be in the parent chat.

Group Chats for Opens Teams

- If you have a player u18 in your team or squad, you must ask the parents permission to include them in your team group chats.
- The parent of an u18 player must be given the opportunity to be in the team chat.

Coaches Directly Contacting Players Under 18

- If you wish to contact a player directly in regards to the team, injuries, tactics, feedback, availability for training, game or tournament etc, it must be sent to the parents as well. For example, Hi David, I have just sent this message to Aaron.

Social Media

- Coaches, team management and other personnel in positions of authority are **NOT** to engage in social media with minors.
- We treat all social media postings, blogs, status updates and tweets as public 'comment'.
- Postings (written, photos or videos) will be family-friendly and feature positive club news and events.
- No personal information about our members will be disclosed.
- No statements will be made that are misleading, false or likely to injure a person's reputation.



- No statements will be made that might bring our club into disrepute.
- Abusive, discriminatory, intimidating or offensive statements will not be tolerated. Offending posts will be removed and those responsible will be blocked from the site.

What we ask you to do

We expect our members to conduct themselves appropriately when using electronic communication to share information with other members or posting material on public websites connected to the club.

Electronic communication:

- should be restricted to club matters
- must not offend, intimidate, humiliate or bully another person
- must not be misleading, false or injure the reputation of another person
- should respect and maintain the privacy of members
- must not bring the club into disrepute.

Coaches and others who work with children and young people must direct electronic communication through the child's parents.

Non-compliance

Members may face disciplinary action for sending inappropriate electronic communication or posting online content or comments that harass, offend, intimidate or humiliate another member, as outlined in our member protection policy or code of conduct.

Under certain circumstances, cyber bullying (e.g., bullying that is carried out through an internet service such as email, a chat room, discussion group, instant messaging or website) is a criminal offence that can be reported to the police.

In addition, members who publish false or misleading comments about another person in the public domain (e.g., Facebook, YouTube or Twitter) may be liable for defamation.



I, _____ have read and understood the policy and will abide by it as a member of Central Coast Touch Football Association. I understand that we must adhere to other third-party policies and guidelines established by the NSWTA and TFA.

Signature:

Date:

If under 18 years of age, parent/guardian:

Signature:

Date: