



# CRICKET COUNCIL OF ONTARIO

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## **SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING POLICY**

The Cricket Council of Ontario (Cricket Ontario) executive board acknowledges that the use of social networking sites is increasing significantly to the point where it is recognized that a large number of players are operating Facebook pages and/or twitter accounts. Additionally the Cricket Ontario has its own Facebook page.

With the increase in the use of these type of networking sites by players, there have been examples where inappropriate comments about players' abilities, coaches' management styles of teams and representative team selections has occurred.

The Cricket Ontario executive board considers that the use of social networking sites for this type of communication is unacceptable. The policy is to assist in giving players, parents and administrators guidance as to how these sites should and should not be used.

The Cricket Ontario executive board supports that all players, coaches and administrators should be treated fairly and that no person should be bullied or be taken an unfair advantage of.

The Cricket Ontario executive board has implemented the following rules relating to the use of social networking sites:

- No player, parent, coach or administrator shall use any social networking site for any purpose which is in contravention of the Cricket Ontario, Cricket Canada code of behavior.
- Any player who uses any social networking site for any purpose who in the opinion of the Cricket Ontario board is in breach of the Code of Behaviors may face disciplinary sanction.
- Dishonorable content such as racial, ethnic, sexual, religious, and physical disability slurs are not tolerated.
- CCO Staff and Volunteers are not to publish post or release any information that is considered confidential or not public. If there are questions about what is considered confidential, should check with the member of the executive board or President and/or secretary.
- Members should avoid and not post or comments on, some specific examples of prohibited social media conduct include posting commentary, content, or images that are defamatory, pornographic, proprietary, harassing, libelous, or that can create a hostile work environment.

The Facebook Administrator will provide accountability and control over material published on the club Facebook page. Abusive, discriminatory, intimidating or offensive statements will not be tolerated. Offending posts will be removed and those responsible will be blocked from the site.