

# Dinnington Town Football Club



## Social Media Policy

# Our policy

Social networking activities such as tweeting, blogging, involvement in social networking sites and posting material, images or comments can have a negative effect on an organisation's reputation or image.

In addition, Dinnington Town Football Club has a firm commitment to safeguarding children in all aspects of its work.

This policy has been written to set out the key principles and code of conduct that we expect of all members of the club with respect to their responsibilities in the use of social networking sites.

## Key Principles:

- Everyone at Dinnington Town Football Club has a responsibility to ensure that they protect the reputation of the club and to treat members of the club with respect.
- It is important to protect everyone at Dinnington Town Football Club from allegations and misinterpretations, which can arise from the use of social networking sites.
- Safeguarding children is a key responsibility of all members of the club, and it is essential that everyone at Dinnington Town Football Club considers this and acts responsibly if they are using social networking sites. It is advised that anyone working in the club as a volunteer must not communicate with children via social networking.

## The following are not considered acceptable at Dinnington Town Football Club:

- The use of the club's name, logo, or any other published material without written prior permission from the club committee. This applies to any published material including the internet or written documentation.
- The posting of any communication or images which links the club to any form of illegal conduct, or which may damage the reputation of the club. This includes defamatory comments.
- The disclosure of confidential or sensitive information; or the disclosure of information or images that could compromise the security of the club and its facilities.
- The posting of any images of employees, children, governors or anyone directly connected with the club whilst engaged in club activities.

## In addition to the above everyone at Dinnington Town Football Club must ensure that they:

- Do not make any derogatory, defamatory, rude, threatening or inappropriate comments about the club or anyone at or connected with the club.
- Use social networking sites responsibly and ensure that neither their personal/professional reputation, or the club's reputation is compromised by inappropriate postings.

- Are aware of the potential of on-line identity fraud and to be cautious when giving out personal information about themselves which may compromise their personal safety and security.

**In instances where there has been a breach of the above Code of Conduct, the following will apply:**

- Any breaches of this policy will be fully investigated. Where it is found that there has been a breach of the policy this may result in action being taken. A breach of this policy will be considered to be a serious disciplinary offence, which is also contrary to the club's ethos and principles.
- The Club Committee will take appropriate action in order to protect the club's reputation and that of its committee members, managers, coaches, players, parents, referees and anyone else directly linked to the club.

## Guidelines on Communications

The FA has published guidelines in use of the internet and communications with young people which are available through the club or online at TheFA.com.

- Social networking, websites, mobile phone and email communications
- Running a Website - Do's and Don'ts
- Responsible use of social networking sites
- Communicating responsibly with Young Leaders, Coaches and Referees U18
- Using Texts and Emails with U18s - Do's and Don'ts
- Guidance for parents/carers - Responsible use of text, email and social networking sites
- Guidance for U18s using: Club Web Pages, Social Networks, Email and Texts