



WESTSIDE TIMBERS SOCCER CLUB

PLAYER SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

In the ever-popular world of social media, one can quickly forget just how powerful these communication tools can be and the significant impact they can have on an individual, friends, family, teammates, etc. Social media refers to the use of web-based and mobile technologies to turn communication into interactive dialogue. Examples of social media include, but are not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, LinkedIn, podcasts, blogs, etc.

Neither players, parents, or others affiliated with the Westside Timbers Soccer Club may engage in conduct through social media which would otherwise violate the Westside Timbers Soccer Club's Code of Conduct and Club Policies. What you write is your personal responsibility. As a Westside Timbers Soccer Club athlete or parent, you are a representative of the Club, please keep in mind the following guidelines below as you utilize social media.

Westside Timbers Soccer Club (WT) recognizes the athlete's right to actively participate in social media, however, it maintains and will enforce the following expectations of athletes:

- WT athletes will not post sexist, racist, obscene or profane material of any kind.
- WT athletes will not use social media to degrade, demean, or attack any person, school or club.
- WT athletes will not post material relating to drugs, alcohol, or any acts in violation of federal or state laws, Westside Timbers Soccer Club policies, or team rules.
- WT athletes will not post material that reflects negatively on themselves, their team or Westside Timbers Soccer Club.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any violation of this Social Media Policy, including first time offense, is subject to investigation and possible disciplinary action by the Westside Timbers Soccer Club as well as legal authorities. Violation can result in Disciplinary Action for the player and /or team. It is possible for games and/or seasons to be completely cancelled because of social media mishaps. Disciplinary Action by the Westside Timbers Board, may include, but not limited to the following:

- You may be required to remove the unacceptable content or have the social media account deactivated.
- Suspension from the team or dismissal from the club. You can be temporarily suspended or you may be permanently dismissed from the Westside Timbers Soccer Club. Suspensions or dismissals never entitle a player or his/her family to a refund of registration or team fees.

POSTING GUIDELINES

THINK FIRST - Before you post anything be aware that once you post, it is available and viewable to anyone, anytime, anywhere in the world. The moment you put it in cyberspace, it is out of your control – even if you limit access to your account. Is your post something you'd want your mother, father, and grandparents to see or broadcast on ESPN?

BE AWARE OF LIABILITY – At all times, you are responsible for what you post on your own site and the sites of others. You can be held liable for anything deemed to be copyright infringement, defamatory, proprietary, libel or obscene (as defined by the courts). What you post today can haunt you tomorrow.

PHOTOS – Again, you are responsible for anything you post including pictures. DO NOT post pictures of anyone other than yourself unless you get their permission. Photos of drinking activities or other inappropriate photos will not be tolerated.

BE YOURSELF – Never pretend to be someone else. Tracking tools make it possible to find out who posted anonymously. Even if you delete a post or comment, it can still be found.

CORRECT MISTAKES – If you make a mistake when posting admit it. Be upfront and be quick with your correction, don't wait three days to correct something. Also, monitor teammates. If you see a questionable post, encourage them to delete it.

SAFETY & PRIVACY

Never post anything in relation to your home address, local address, phone numbers, date of birth or other private information. Always exercise caution when posting your whereabouts or plans for the night.

Be aware of who you add as a friend/connection – many people are looking to take advantage of student-athletes. Furthermore, at Westside Timbers we expect that coaches and players will not be "friends", connections or have any interaction with one another on social media.

Protect yourself at all times. While you want to be honest about yourself, don't provide anything that scam artists or identity thieves could use against you.

Maintain privacy at all times, especially with pictures.