



PLAYFORD AQUATIC CLUB

Using Social Media for Disrespectful, Damaging and Derogatory Purposes.

POLICY

As internet networking sites have become more fashionable and widely accepted as a forum of social interaction, it was perhaps inevitable that the comments they contain would cross over into club issues. After all, if the internet is now just another venue for “chat”, then why wouldn’t people want to mention what they like (and more often) dislike about their club?

But communicating on the internet is fundamentally different to communicating with someone on the telephone or in person. What the publishers of these comments don’t seem to grasp (or do they) is that posting damaging comments on-line is worse than publishing them in a newspaper because the range of possible readers is unlimited. It has the potential (and likelihood) of being accessed by many other club members, and many more internet users, it also allows people who are in no way connected to, or involved with the club joining the conversation and putting their opinion and criticism into the mix.

These words are then preserved in print, if only electronically. They can (and will) be copied, forwarded and circulated at will. The really critical point is that an internet “conversation” in no way remains private.

It is easy to see that making negative on-line comments about a person, club or institution can cause potentially more damage than making the same comment in a face-to-face conversation, and it only serves to inflame a situation to a point where an amicable resolution cannot be found.

PAC does not condone the use of Facebook or any other form of Social Internet Media in this manner. If you have any concerns or comments relating to Club issues or members we ask that you use the correct channels to deal with it, and not post them on line.

Playford Aquatic Club Committee

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