Mariners Volleyball Club
Social Media Policy

Mariners Volleyball Club understands that advancements of technology are enabling new forms of social interaction and social media is a popular communication tool for players, parents and coaches. Mariners Volleyball Club is also aware that social media is a venue where inappropriate behavior and misconduct can occur.

Online activities related to the Mariners Volleyball Club are an extension of the club and subject to all club expectations. Athlete and coach online behaviour should reflect the club in a positive way and adhere to the Mariners Volleyball Club and Volleyball BC code of conduct

The following policies are meant to ensure the appropriate use of social media and online communication.

Texting, Email and Similar Electronic Communications

If it is necessary for a coach or staff member to send a direct text message or email to a player, the following guidelines
must be followed:

- It should be non-personal and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities.
- It must be signed so it is clear as to who is sending the message. Just using the number or email address for identification is not sufficient.
- It should never include or contain offensive, sexual or inappropriate language or photos.
- The time of day and the number of messages sent should be considered.
- A parent (or guardian) should be copied if important logistics are discussed.
- Records should be kept of every coach's current cell number and email accounts.

When a player feels the need to text or email a coach or staff member, the following guidelines must be followed:

- It should be sent only with information regarding the organization or team or club activities.

Social Media (The catch-all term that is applied broadly to new computer-mediated communication media such as blogs, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter)

- Model appropriate behaviour in social media befitting your status as an elite athlete, a member of Mariners Volleyball Club and Volleyball BC. As a representative of both MVC and Volleyball BC, you have agreed to MVC's and Volleyball BC's Code of

Conduct and Ethics and must follow that Code when you post material and interact with other people through social media.

- Be aware that your public Facebook page, Instagram or Twitter feed may be viewed by Mariners Volleyball Club and content or behaviour demonstrated in social media may be subject to sanction under MVC's Discipline and Complaints Policy.
- In order to maintain a professional and appropriate relationship with athletes, coaches and other adult members should also refrain from interacting with athletes on their personal social media sites, especially if there is an athlete/coach relationship, and should not request or accept any athletes as 'friends' or 'followers' on social media sites. Coaches should also refrain from interacting with athletes on social media sites for purposes not related to the delivery of the athlete's development program.
- Players are never to post pictures of other club members or players that can be hurtful or embarrassing or without their permission.
- The use of any device of recording or transmitting visual images is strictly prohibited in showers, restrooms, changing rooms or other areas where participants expect privacy.
- Protecting the identity and privacy of all Mariners Volleyball Club players is required.
- Do not post names, photos or identifying information at any time.
- Athletes, coaches and parents cannot be pressured into joining social media sites.
- Do not make social media sites the exclusive location for important information.
- Team communication through social media sites must be open, transparent and professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about the team or club activities.
- Exercise appropriate discretion when using social media for your own personal communication with the knowledge that your behaviour may be used as a model for others.
- Social media sites should not be used to abuse or criticize the organization, members or players.

Complaints and concerns about an athletes or coaches conduct or behavior in social media can be addressed using the Mariners Volleyball Club Complaint Protocol.