

Social Media Policy

Social Media / Cyber Bullying

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the protection of the health, safety and well-being of all Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting Association members and those who participate in the activities of the Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting Association. Social media, which should be broadly understood for purposes of this policy to include blogs, wikis, facebook, twitter, microblogs, message boards, chat rooms, electronic newsletters, online forums, social networking sites, other sites and services that permit users to share information with others in a contemporaneous manner.

Cyber Bullying:

Bullying and harassment in all forms is regarded by the Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting Association as unacceptable. With social media in all its forms so easily accessible the opportunity to post and receive unwanted, improper comments and statements has dramatically increased.

Messages or statements made using social media are largely instantaneous and while a useful medium to promote our sport, improper use of this medium to post inappropriate messages are a form of cyber bullying.

Bullying has the potential to cause great anxiety and distress to the person who has been the target of abusive/improper comments or statements. In some cases bullying is regarded as a criminal offence.

Frustration at a referee, another competitor, club member, club official, coach, visitor or governing body should never be communicated on social network channels, but rather by way of reasoned, logical verbal and written statements through the proper channels.

The Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting Association acknowledges the emergence of new technology, constantly evolving communication mediums and wishes to enable such new media to be used to benefit the sport, its participants and to applaud achievements. The benefits can be instantaneous due to the immediate nature of social media communication to an appropriate audience using all available social media forums. However, participants within the sport need to be mindful of a few key points while using this immediate form of communication that could lead to its inappropriate use, at times unintended and at other times without a proper understanding that once comments are made or published they remain in the public forum for a long time and difficult to retract - In reality you lose control of the published articles.

Social Media Don'ts UCPSA members should be aware of (not an exhaustive list).

- Do not ever comment on rumours, don't deny or affirm them or speculate about them.
- Do not include personal information of others in social media channels.
- Do not use the Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting Association logo without written permission.

- Do not publish matters discussed at Board & Discipline Representatives meetings without prior UCPSA board approval as these items may be considered confidential or non-public.
- Do not use offensive, provocative, spiteful or insensitive language.
- Do not publish anything that may bring the reputation of the Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting Association, its Teams, Sub-Committees, Clubs, Board of Directors or individual Members into disrepute.

Cautions the Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting Association recommends:

- Do not include personal information of yourself in social media channels.
- Use your best judgement - Do not publish something that makes you feel the slightest bit uncomfortable, and never write/publish if you are feeling emotional, upset or intoxicated.
- Always use social media forums to add value and promote the sport in a positive way.

Any member found to be in breach of the UCPSA Social Media Policy may be disciplined through the Ulster Clay Pigeon Shooting published disciplinary code of conduct.

