



Social Media Code of Conduct for Players, Parents, Coaches & Supporters

Long Stratton Football Club fully understands and acknowledges the way in which Social Media is a massive part of our lives. For the purposes of this Code of Conduct the term 'Social Media' refers to the means of interactions among people and organisations in which they create, share, and/or exchange information, opinions and ideas in virtual communities and networks. This includes (but is not limited to) online platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

These technologies offer opportunities for us to reach, communicate and engage with those involved in sport, including our members, supporters, staff, players and their parents. However, as with any environment there are also risks. Long Stratton Football Club accepts that it is any member's, supporter's, staff, player's or their parent/s' right to pass reasonable and considered comment on a specific match or on the sport in general. Long Stratton Football Club does expect all such social media postings to be constructive and relevant given the potentially unrestricted audience of online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter that the Club chooses to use for its marketing and communication.

The following conditions are the basis of our Social Media Code of Conduct and apply to any social media posting relating either directly or indirectly to Long Stratton Football Club that might reasonably be regarded as reflecting on the Club in any way.

No social media posting may be made by a member, supporter, player or parent that:

- Contains any threatening, abusive, insulting or indecent language.
- Purports to be from Long Stratton Football Club but is from an unauthorised source
- Discriminates on any grounds, including race, colour, gender, ethnicity, nationality, faith, sexual orientation, social class or disability.
- Is detrimental to the interests of Long Stratton Football Club or to the game in general, or which brings Long Stratton Football Club or the game into disrepute.
- The individual could reasonably be expected to know, would implicate a third party in any disciplinary or legal hearings that may include the copying and redistribution of any third-party social media posting.
- The individual might reasonably be expected to know, would undermine the unity of a team, of the Club Committee or the standing of Long Stratton Football Club in general.
- Discloses any matter that is confidential to Long Stratton Football Club or the Club Committee, that may include, but is not restricted to, team selection, tactics or player injuries or general welfare matters or financial information.
- Discloses the score line / result of a mini-soccer match up to and including U11's.

All members, supporters, players and their parent/s are reminded that while it is acceptable to take photographs of players participating in football matches and training, they are for personal viewing only and specific written prior permission must be obtained from Long Stratton Football Club before any photograph/s may be distributed and in the case of a young person (under the age of 18), prior written permission must be obtained from the parent or guardian.

All members, supporters, players and their parent/s are reminded that while an individual's opinions may not represent the opinion of Long Stratton Football Club, they can very easily reflect on the Club. Where a player, parent, supporter or coach has a difference of opinion with a League decision or Match Official or



any other such ruling then we encourage that person to raise any concerns and speak with the Club Committee to seek resolution. In such instances members, supporters, players and their parent/s should refrain from critical social media posts in favour of a more constructive outcome that is supported by the Club.

As such, all members, supporters, players and their parent/s are expected to uphold the Club's values, as well as its long and proud history, in any social media posting that they choose to make.

Use of smart phones and similar devices in changing rooms

All members are reminded that, unless changing rooms are being used exclusively by adults, then all smart phones and similar devices must be switched off, remain switched off and not switched back on until you have left the changing room.

Given the potentially severe sanctions following any breach of the code of conduct members, supporters, players and their parent/s should endeavour to keep all personal and authorised login details and passwords secure.

Any member, supporter, player or their parent/s failing to adhere to this code of conduct must accept that they may face disciplinary measures that may include suspension or barring from Long Stratton Football Club and may affect participation in sport beyond Long Stratton Football Club.

Any breach of this code of conduct or concerns can be reported to the Club Welfare Officer or a member of the Club Committee or coaching staff.

Long Stratton F.C. agree this Social Media Code of Conduct for Players, Parents, Coaches and Supporters

Signed Chairperson:

Print: Paul Simmons

Date: 19th July 2022

Signed Club Secretary:

Print: Paul Simmons

Date: 19th July 2022