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WORLINGWORTH CRICKET CLUB

Use of social media, texts and emails to Juniors

**Guidance for Club Officials / Coaches / Managers**

**Texts and emails: contacting Under 18 players**

All arrangements for under 18s to play in matches or attend training or other club events will be made via their parents or carers; this includes text and email messages.

All contact with children should be in relation to coaching, matches and cricket-related activity.

For young people aged between 14 and 17 year olds the Club policy will be that coaches can text or email the young person, as long as they copy in the parent and have the parent’s prior consent. This means the parent is able to monitor communications, but the young person receives the information directly. If you receive any responses from the young person that appear inappropriate they should be brought to the attention of the parent or carer. You should not engage in individual text or email conversations with a young person under 18 years old without their parent receiving the same messages from you.

**Social Media: Dos and Don’ts Coaches / Managers**

Any Facebook or Twitter accounts used for promoting the club and cricket in general must be separate from personal pages. All contact with players will be through the club accounts and strictly in relation to training, coaching, matches and cricket related activity. The Club will ask its managers and officials to adopt the following dos and don’ts.

DO:

* Have separate social media accounts for cricket-club related and personal use.
* Keep your photos and personal information private.
* Apply the Codes of Conduct and appropriate professionalism to your behaviour online, by text and email.
* Obtain consent before posting personal information online – including photographs where an individual can be identified. Remember the picture/no name guidance for under 18s

DO NOT:

* Send text messages to juniors – make arrangements via their parents.
* Send private messages to children and young people via social media.
* Invite or accept children and young people to become “friends”.
* Send inappropriate text messages or post messages on social media that are offensive, nasty or derogatory in any way.

**If you have concerns regarding social media, texts and emails**

If you suspect that someone is using social media in an unsafe or inappropriate manner, you should report their behaviour to your Club Welfare Officer, the County Welfare Officer, or the ECB Safeguarding team – email safeguarding@ecb.co.uk

If you believe that an offence has been committed, or that someone’s use of social media is placing a child is at risk of harm, inform the police immediately.

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