# Stoke Green Cricket Club – Digital Code of Conduct

Everyone is reminded that all Club Codes of Conduct apply online and in text and email communications and is subject to the same disciplinary process. In addition to the General Code of Conduct the club has seen fit to provide additional guidance for online conduct;

**Definitions**

**Adult** – Anyone engaged with the club **over** the age of 18. Including but not limited to; officers, players, coaches, volunteers, members and employees.

**Child/ Young Person–** Anyone **under** the age of 18

**Text Message** – SMS or Whatsapp messages, or other social media messages

**Email, SMS, and WhatsApp Communication**

* Adults shall avoid having or seeking children’s mobile phone numbers
* No adult is permitted to send text messages or emails to a child. Arrangements for under 18’s must be via their parents or carers; this includes text and email or Whats App messages etc.
  + An acceptable exception to this rule is to text or email the parent and to copy in the 16 or 17 year old, **with the parent’s prior consent**. This means the parent is able to monitor communications, but the 16 or 17 year old receives the information directly.
  + You should not engage in individual text or email conversations with a 16 or 17 year old without their parent receiving the same messages from you.
  + All contact with children should be in relation to coaching, matches and cricket-related activity.
* No adult shall send a text message or email to a child that is inappropriate, this includes but is not limited to; foul or offensive language, images containing full or partial nudity and derogatory comments including ‘banter’
* Any concerning messages received from children shall immediately be reported to the Club Safeguarding Officer, the adult should end the conversation immediately.
* All adults will adhere to the general code of conduct whilst using email, SMS or WhatsApp, harassing and bullying behaviour, inappropriate or offensive materials should not be conducted via these platforms. This applies when communicating with other adults.

**Personal Social Media**

* Adults shall not engage with Children via their personal social media accounts. Although younger players may see you as a friend, and may request to be your ‘friend’ on a social media site, you should direct them to the cricket- club related page and keep all contact professional.
* All members, regardless of age should mindful of what they post online and avoid bringing the club into disrepute. Members shall avoid ‘tagging’ the club in posts which contain potentially offensive material (examples include but are not limited to; full or partial nudity, violence, illegal substances, politics, campaign groups and current affairs)
* All members shall avoid posting harassing, offensive or insulting comments on other club accounts

**Club Social Media**

Our online presence through our website or social media platforms will adhere to the following guidelines:

* All social media accounts will be password-protected, and at least 2 members (Social Media Manager and Club Welfare Officer at the least) will have access to each account and password. Should a Social Media Manager leave the club, the passwords will be reset and their access revoked.
* The accounts will be monitored by the Club Safeguarding Officer and any inappropriate posts will be advised to be removed. Any member with a concern over content may approach the Club Safeguarding Officer who will review with the relevant social media managers.
* Posts containing images or videos of children will adhere to ECB “[Photography, Filming and Social media broadcast](https://platform-static-files.s3.amazonaws.com/ecb/document/2019/03/04/87432a60-34b2-40e9-a482-6d0cc740afec/11_ECB_Photography_Filming_and_Social_media_broadcast_Guidelines_2018.pdf)” Guidelines
* Social Media Managers, or anyone with access to club social media accounts shall not use the account to contact or engage with children. If they suspect a child is attempting to engage through social media channels this should be flagged to the Club Safeguarding Officer.
* Social Media Managers should be mindful not to friend or follow young people from the club account.
* Posts shall be mindful and appropriate for all audiences, which may include children. All posts shall refrain from bringing the club into disrepute and avoid topics which may be considered potentially offensive (examples include but are not limited to; full or partial nudity, violence, illegal substances, politics, campaign groups and current affairs)
* The club social media accounts shall not engage in commenting on other accounts which could be deemed offensive, harassing or insulting.
* Posts promoting businesses shall be restricted to only those that have a sponsorship with the club. This content must still adhere to all other guidelines and be appropriate for all audiences.

**Other Digital Media**

* All digital content displayed at the club (including but not limited to TV and music) shall be inoffensive at all times of day. Members and guests shall refrain from displaying material which may be deemed offensive, harassing or insulting. Members shall remain mindful of their safeguarding responsibilities towards children and protected characteristics as defined in law when selecting material to display at the club. Materials containing; partial or full nudity, foul language, violence and political/campaign group slogans are not appropriate.

**Failing to adhere to the Code of Conduct**

Should any member or guest found to be in contravention of this, or any other club code of conduct the Committee shall take appropriate action as per the club constitution and disciplinary process. Failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct may lead to suspension from the club and membership being revoked. Stoke Green Cricket Club also has a duty of care to report any breaches to County Level, which may impact future participation in cricket related activities.

**Related Documents**

* General Code of Conduct
* Players Code of Conduct
* Coaches & Volunteers Code of Conduct