



# Murton Cricket Academy

Welfare Ground, Murton, Seaham Co. Durham SR7 9RD

Tel: 0191 5268136 E-Mail: [murtoncc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:murtoncc@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Social Media, Text and Email Policy Statement

Murton Cricket Club (The Club) is committed to ensuring all Children (i.e. all persons under the age of 18) participating in cricket have a safe and positive experience.

The following policy has been developed in line with the 'Safe Hands policy & procedures' published by the ECB

### Social Media

The Club fully understands and acknowledges any player's/member's right to pass reasonable and considered comment on a specific match, or on the sport in general. The Club does, however, expect all such social media postings to be constructive and relevant given the potentially unrestricted audience of Facebook & Twitter.

The following conditions apply to any social media posting which relates either directly, or indirectly, to Murton Cricket Club. These conditions also apply to any posting that might reasonably be regarded as reflecting on the Club in any way.

No social media posting may be made by a player/member which:

- Contains any threatening, abusive, insulting or indecent language.
- Discriminates on any grounds of race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality, faith, sexual orientation, social class or disability.
- Is detrimental to the interests of the Club or to the game of cricket in general, or which brings the Club or the game of cricket into disrepute.
- The individual could reasonably be expected to know would implicate a third party in any disciplinary or legal hearings. This may include, but is not restricted to, 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, and or the standing of the Club in general.
- Discloses any matter which is confidential to the Club. This may include, but is not restricted to, team selection, tactics & injuries.
- Any photos posted must not include the names of any under 18s in the photo
- Any under 18s named in posts must not include a photo of the named child

All players/members are reminded that while an individual's opinions may not represent those of the Club, they can very easily reflect on the Club. As such, all players/members are expected to consider the Club's values as well as its long and proud history in any social media postings that they choose to make.

Any player/member failing to adhere to this code of conduct will face disciplinary measures and may be suspended or banned from representing/attending Murton Cricket Club.

Given the potentially severe sanctions following any breach of the code, players/members should keep all login details and passwords secure.



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## Do's and Don'ts

### Coaches / Managers / Clubs 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 any personal information online — this includes photographs where an individual can be identified.
- Remember the picture/no name guidance for under 18s

### Coaches / Managers / Clubs 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.

## Emails and Texts

The Club and its Coaches will not email U18's in anyway. 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.

If the Club or Coach receives any responses from the child that appears inappropriate it should be brought to the attention of the parent or carer and the Club's Child Welfare Officer immediately.

The Club or Coach should not engage in individual text or email conversations with a 16 or 17 year old without their parent receiving the same messages from the sender. All contact with children should be in relation to coaching, matches and cricket-related activity.

## Adult players in Open Age Teams

The Club request that you be mindful of who may have access to material you share via social media, including Facebook, Twitter and other platforms.

## Concerns

If you have concerns regarding social media, texts and emails or 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](mailto: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 at risk of harm, inform the [Police](#) immediately.