



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

The aim of the Mobile Phone Policy is to promote safe and appropriate practice through establishing clear acceptable use through guidelines.

Scope:

This policy applies to all members of the Club, and relates directly to the appropriate codes of conduct.

Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of the athletes / coaches / volunteers to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document. It is the parent's responsibility to allow their child to have a mobile phone, and they should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone to club sessions. Permission to have a mobile phone during the club sessions/events will be contingent on the parent/guardian's permission and the club will not be held responsible for any damage or loss incurred.

Policy Statement:

It is recognised that smartphones contain a wide variety of functions which can be susceptible to misuse. Misuse includes taking and distribution of indecent images, exploitation and bullying.

Misuse of smartphones can cause distress to individuals, impact on self-confidence and mental well-being, as well as impact on privacy and right to confidentiality. Such concerns are not exclusive to children and young people.

It is appreciated that it can be very difficult to detect when smartphones are being used, particularly in relation to additional functions. The use of all mobile phones is therefore limited, regardless of their capabilities.

There are 'mobile phone free' areas within the Club setting. These are areas that are considered to be the most vulnerable and sensitive: -

- Changing Rooms;
- Toilets; and,
- Showers.

There is a zero-tolerance policy in place with regards the use of mobile phones by any individual in these areas.

Members using their mobile phone to engage in personal attacks, harass other people, post private information about others using SMS messages, taking/sending photographs or objectionable images, and phone calls will face disciplinary actions as sanctioned by the Club, and may be subject to criminal proceedings.