

# British Flyball Association – Internet/Social Networking Policy

## Purpose and Scope of the Policy

The British Flyball Association (“the Association”) recognises that the internet provides unique opportunities to participate in interactive discussions and share information on particular topics using a wide variety of social media. Therefore, the Association does not wish to discourage its members (“the Membership”) from accessing and using such media, nonetheless it expects that certain standards of conduct are observed to protect its reputation and the Membership from the dangers of inappropriate use.

## Who is covered by this policy?

The policy covers the entire membership, including ordinary members, Committee members, office bearers, and any other officials or judges. Third parties who post to any public facing Association social media accounts or pages must also comply with the policy.

## Procedure

- The BFA expects its members to keep confidential information secure.
  - This means members must not post information on a social networking site which is confidential to the BFA, or its Membership.
- The BFA expects its members to comply with data protection requirements.
  - This means members must not breach any data protection obligations, for example disclosing personal information about another member online.
- The BFA expects its members to act with integrity and comply with ethical standards and all applicable laws.
  - This means members must not breach any other laws (in addition to Data Protection) or ethical standards (for example, to use social media in a false or misleading way).
  - Members must not post entries on a social networking site which are derogatory, defamatory, discriminatory or offensive in any way or which could bring the Association into disrepute.
- Members should be aware that documents can be created on social networking sites which Courts can order to be disclosed for use in litigation. Consequently, the Membership will be assumed to have written any contentious items attributed to them unless they can prove definitively that they have not done so.
- The BFA monitors its IT systems and Social Networking accounts/groups/pages as is deemed necessary in order to prevent inappropriate usage. Hard copy of any blog entries/social media posts will be used in any disciplinary proceedings.
- Members should report any instances they feel may breach this policy to a BFA Committee member with accompanying screenshots/links/evidence wherever possible.

## Disciplinary Action

Members whose conduct breaches this policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Association’s disciplinary policy as outlined in Section 3 of the BFA Rules. This can be up to and including, dismissal and barring from the Association.

## Acceptance

By applying to be allowed to access any Social Media site operated by or in the name of the Association and continuing to use the site by either reading or posting comments, you indicate your acceptance of this policy and you agree to be bound by the conditions of use.