



STEEL CITY ICE RENEGADES

SOCIAL AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA POLICY

The safety and protection of our participants is central to the Steel City Ice Renegades' goals. The Steel City Ice Renegades adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program as a means to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse and other types of misconduct, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing. To help prevent abuse or misconduct from occurring as a result of social media, mobile and electronic communications, The Steel City Ice Renegades has adopted the following policy. This policy is designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct.

Effective communication concerning travel, practice or game schedules, and administrative issues among coaches, administrators, players and their families is critical. However, the use of mobile devices, web-based applications, social media and other forms of electronic communications increases the possibility of improprieties and misunderstandings and also provides potential offenders with unsupervised and potentially inappropriate access to participants. The Steel City Ice Renegades believe that as part of the emphasis on participant safety, communications involving our minor participants should be appropriate, productive and transparent. Adherence to this policy is expected to help reduce these risks.

OVERALL GUIDANCE

All electronic communication between coach and player must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. All content between coaches and players should be readily available to share with the public or families of the player or coach. If the player is **under the age of 18**, any email, text, social media or similar communication **must** also copy or include the player's parents and/or legal guardian.



SOCIAL MEDIA, EMAIL, TEXT MESSAGING AND SIMILAR COMMUNICATIONS

Coaches are prohibited from having players joined to their personal Facebook page or any other similar social media application. To facilitate communication, an official team page may be set up for players or parents to join and coaches and administrators can communicate to players through this official site. Coaches, administrators and players may use email and text messaging to communicate. However, all electronic communication of any kind between coach or administrator and player must be non-personal in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities or for team oriented motivational purposes.

REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS WITH PLAYER

Following receipt of a written request by the parents or legal guardian of a minor player that their child not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches or other adult, The Steel City Ice Renegades and the applicable coaches and administrators will comply with such request without any repercussions for such request.

ABUSE AND MISCONDUCT

Social media and other means of electronic communication can be used to commit abuse and misconduct (e.g. emotional and/or sexual harassment, bullying, hazing, etc.) Such communications by any coach, parent, administrator, volunteer, or other participant of The Steel City Ice Renegades will not be tolerated and are considered violations of USA Hockey's Safe Sport Program.

REPORTING

The Steel City Ice Renegades prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey Safe Sport Handbook. Participants, employees or volunteers in The Steel City Ice Renegades may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these social media, mobile and electronic communication policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. Reports of any actual or suspected violations, you may email USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or may call 1-800-888-4656. In addition, you may contact the the Steel City Ice Renegades Safesport coordinator Julie Rapino at renegadessafesport@gmail.com