Closer Look: Social Media

Safety Minute 2223

What is it?

- Coaches are prohibited from allowing players to join their personal social media accounts or from communicating via DM
- Any abuse or misconduct (harassment, bullying, hazing, etc.) by any member of SCIR is not tolerated and are violations of USA Hockey's Safe Sport program
- If a player is under 18, all email, text, social media or similar communication MUST include the player's parent, legal guardian or other adult

Recommendations

- Social Media is not private. Pictures or screen snap shots can be stored, distributed, and produced as evidence in a discipline investigation.
- It is highly recommended that only SCIR provided Team Snap be used for messaging amongst the team
- Minor athletes often create group chats through texting or social media apps. This is where the inappropriate conduct usually takes place. Parents should supervise their athletes to mitigate these risks

More Information?

- More information about our SCIR Social and Electronic Media policy is located at: https://www.scirhockey.org/information/usa-hockey-safesports/
- USA Hockey Safesport Handbook pages 21-23: https://www.usahockey.com/safesporthandbook
- Tips for Parenting Teens in the Digital Age: https://sossafetymagazine.com/internet-safety/5-practical-tips-for-parenting-teens-in-the-digital-age/

The most important thing that you can do as a parent is to have regular conversations about your teens' digital life and provide proper guidance.

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