



Code of Conduct

Social Media (including WhatsApp)

- Social Media channels and WhatsApp Groups are there to promote the activities and aims of DYC ~ CHD.
- The club will follow the normal recommended aged guidelines for membership of each of its social media platforms.
- WhatsApp group memberships will be restricted to aged over eighteens.
- Membership of Club Social Media groups will be routinely updated to exclude lapsed and cancelled membership
- Messages should be brief, positive, and informative and look to celebrate success as appropriate.
- Assume that any message or pictures you post might appear in print and do not use inappropriate language.
- Do not post anything which would cause hurt or embarrassment to an individual member of the Group or would cause reputational damage to the Club.
- The Groups should not be used to promote any political or religious agenda, nor to engage in commercial activity other than the promotion of the Club.
- Identifying details such as a member's address, or telephone number should not be posted on social media platforms.
- Parents' permission for photographs or videos of their child to be posted on social media will be sought.
- Members should not communicate with children via personal accounts.
- Any concerns, including safeguarding, reported through social media should be dealt with in the same way as a face-to-face disclosure, according to our reporting procedures.
- Emails or messages will be used for communicating information (such as reminding parents of participating children or young people about upcoming events, which kit to bring or practice timings).
- If an adult/parent or a child (U/18) misinterprets any communication and tries to engage a member in conversation, the member would be justified in taking the following safeguarding steps:
 - ❑ End the conversation or stop replying
 - ❑ Suggest discussing the subject further at the next practice or event
 - ❑ Inform the DYC ~ CHD Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) in the interest of transparency
 - ❑ For a child (U/18) copy the message trail and send to the parent

(with reference to RYA Safeguarding February 2020 and NSPCC January 2021)

If you are concerned that someone is not following the Code of Conduct, you should inform the DYC ~ CHD Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO), club official or the person in charge of the activity.