



NSW Fencing Association - Social Media Policy

1. Introduction

Social media is a very useful tool for promoting fencing and for fencers to converse with each other.

NSWFA uses social media to convey information efficiently to members and the broader community. It helps to build a positive brand image for fencing

While the benefits of social media for communication, marketing and networking are clear, we also recognise that social media can be misused.

This Policy provides a guideline on how social media can best be used and ways in which it should not be used.

The term 'social media' in this Policy takes its ordinary meaning. It includes any means of sending, receiving, sharing and storing of electronically transmitted text or imagery (in any language).

2. Other relevant policies

The NSW Social Media Policy applies in the context of:

- AFF Social Media Policy
- AFF Member Protection Policy
- NSWFA Member Protection Policy
- NSWFA Code of Conduct
- NSWFA Privacy Policy
- NSWFA Child Protection Policy

3. Beneficial use of social media

Social media offers a fast, effective and cost free way to communicate information to NSWFA fencers, their families and others with an interest in fencing. It is also a convenient way for fencers to share experience and build friendship. Networking via social media is a part of everyday life for most people.

The image we want to project via social media is that fencing is an exciting sport, open to all, with good values; courtesy and respect for opponents, for the rules and for the officials who apply the rules.

The courteous and respectful behaviour expected of fencers on the piste should be reflected in behaviour off the piste, including what is said on social media.

The expected behaviour is no less and no more than normal polite civil discourse.

We must always keep in mind that social media is a public forum and conversations between fencers will be seen by others outside the fencing community.

So, please think twice before you hit the 'send' button.

4. Misuse of social media

Members should not use social media, by word or image, directly or by implication, to cause distress to any other member, named or not, or to any other person.

Members should not use social media in ways that may damage the public reputation of the NSW Fencing Association, its members, its affiliated clubs or to detract from the good image of the sport of fencing.

Members should not use social media in any way that brings fencing into disrepute.

Members should not use social media to purport that they are representing the NSW Fencing Association. When NSWFA uses social media to convey information about fencing, the messages will be identified clearly as coming from NSWFA.

Use of social media by adults to cultivate relationships with children under the age of 18 may be a breach of NSW child protection law and, if suspected, reported or otherwise becomes known to NSWFA, will immediately be referred to the NSW Police.

5. Other forms of communication

Other forms of communication, including emails and other written messages, may be covered by this policy, and/or the Code of Conduct, if they are intended or do cause distress to anyone in the context of their membership of NSWFA and their participation in fencing.

6. Breaches of this policy

Any breach or suspected breach of the NSWFA Social Media Policy will be considered as a breach or suspected breach of the NSWFA Code of Conduct and will be dealt with according to the procedures and remedies in the Code.

If there is any difference in interpretation or application between the AFF and NSWFA social media policies, the meaning and intent of the AFF policy will prevail.

Authorised by the NSWFA Board - January 2019