BRYMBO SPORTS & SOCIAL COMPLEX
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USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA, TEXTS, APPS, EMAIL & MESSAGING SERVICES

This guidance is adapted from that provided by the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB).

The following Codes of Conduct apply online and in text and email communications:
- Code of Conduct for Cricket Club Members & Guests
- Code of Conduct for Parents & Players

Social Media

- Social Media, when used properly, is exciting and opens up a lot of opportunities, but at times it can seem strange and even intimidating for people who did not 'grow up' with it.
- Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, Instagram, texting, online gaming and personal emails are everywhere.
- By following some simple guidelines potential pitfalls can be avoided, and Social Media can be safely used as a promotional tool and a means of communication for the club.

Club Officials / Coaches / Managers

- Facebook and Twitter accounts are great for promoting our club and cricket in general, as well as being a fun way to unwind and stay in touch with friends:
  - It is essential to keep these two worlds separate.
- Brymbo Cricket Club has specific cricket-club related pages and these must be kept entirely separate from your own personal pages.
- ALL contact with players should be through the appropriate cricket-club related pages, and strictly in relation to training, coaching, matches and cricket related activity.
- You should also adjust the privacy settings for your personal account so that content is only visible to your own accepted 'friends'.
  - This will keep younger players safe from material that may be unsuitable for them, and will reduce the risk of your online interactions being viewed with suspicion.
- Although younger players may see you as a friend, and may request to be your 'friend' on a social media site, you should direct them to the cricket- club related page and keep all contact professional.
  - What they might consider innocent, friendly contact may not be seen as such by their parents, people at the club and others.
- It is also important to be mindful of any content you post online via the cricket-club related page - remember:
  - You are representing Brymbo Cricket Club;
  - Your communications should conform to the ECB 'Safe Hands' policy and guidance which have been adopted by our club, which are available at this link.
  - Ensure that nothing you post could cause personal distress or be seen as inappropriate for children.
  - If you wouldn't put it on the club notice board, it doesn't belong on the club's social media pages.

- You should have consent before posting any personal information online – this includes photographs where an individual can be identified.
- Remember the **picture/no name** guidance for under 18s

Texts, apps and emails: Contacting Under-18 players

- The Children Act defines a person under 18 years as a child

You MUST make arrangements for under-18s via their parents or carers; this includes text and email or WhatsApp messages etc.

It is understood that in the case of over-16's this may not be ideal for yourself or the parents.

- An acceptable exception to this rule is to text or email the parent and to copy in the 16 or 17-year-old, with the parent's prior consent.
- This means the parent is able to monitor communications, but the 16 or 17-year-old receives the information directly.
- If you receive any responses that appear inappropriate, they should be brought to the attention of the parent or carer.
- You should not engage in individual text or email conversations with a 16 or 17-year-old without their parents receiving the same messages from you.
- All contact with children should be in relation to coaching, matches and cricket-related activity.

Social Media: DO's and DO NOT's for Coaches / Managers / Brymbo Cricket Club

- **DO** have separate social media accounts for cricket-club related and personal use.
- **DO** keep your photos and personal information private.
- **DO** apply the Codes of Conduct and appropriate professionalism to your behaviour online, by text and email.
- **DO** obtain consent before posting any personal information online – this includes photographs where an individual can be identified.
- **DO** remember the **picture/no name** guidance for under 18s (in accordance with the club's "Photography, Filming & Social Media Policy".

- **DO NOT** send text messages to juniors – make arrangements via their parents.
- **DO NOT** send private messages to children and young people via apps or social media.
- **DO NOT** invite or accept children and young people to become "friends".
- **DO NOT** send inappropriate text messages or post messages on social media that are offensive, nasty or derogatory in any way.

Adult players in Open Age teams

Please be mindful of who may have access to material you share via social media, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other platforms.

If you have concerns regarding social media, texts and emails

- If you suspect that someone is using social media in an unsafe or inappropriate manner, you should report their behaviour to the Club Welfare Officer, the County Welfare Officer, or the ECB Safeguarding team – email safeguarding@ecb.co.uk
- If you believe that an offence has been committed, or that someone's use of social media is placing a child at risk of harm, inform the police immediately.

Guidance for Parents/Carers on the use of Social Media, texts, apps and email

This guidance is adapted from that provided to the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) by the Lawn Tennis Association.

This generation is growing up with the internet as part of their everyday lives. It's a great place for them to learn, to have fun and to chat with their friends. Of course, it's important to make sure that they're safe while they do it. As children have access to the internet from various devices, it can be more difficult to monitor their use than when a 'home computer' sat in a downstairs room, and more important that parents/carers have greater knowledge. There is great information available for you to help keep your child safe online:

- visit https://www.net-aware.org.uk for a good introduction.

You may also want to have a look at the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre's guide to the internet for parents and carers:

- https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Remember: it is against Facebook's rules for your child to have an account if they're under thirteen years old. This is to prevent them from being exposed to potentially inappropriate content. You will find all you need to know about keeping young teens safe on Facebook on their official safety page for parents:

- http://www.facebook.com/safety/groups/parents/

In April 2018, Whats App raised their minimum age to 16 years.

Most importantly of all, it's important that your child feels they can talk to someone if they are being bullied online, or if they've been exposed to something that makes them upset or uncomfortable.

Parents / Carers DO's

- **DO** make sure you are aware of who your child has contact with online and via text
- **DO** be aware of The ECB and the club's expectations for coaches and social media
- **DO** talk to your children about using social media.
- **DO** provide your mobile number / email address if requested, so the club can contact you.
- **DO** report any content you think may be improper or unlawful to the Internet Watch Foundation: https://www.iwf.org.uk

Guidance for Children and Young People on the use of Social Media, texts, apps and email

This guidance is adapted from that provided to the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) by the Lawn Tennis Association.

The internet is a great place to learn and to have fun with your friends, and the best way to have fun is to make sure that you stay safe. You should think about the points below whenever you use the internet, or speak to people online or by text:

- If someone isn't your friend in real life, they aren't your friend on the internet. Be careful when accepting friend requests.

- Sometimes people on the internet aren't who they say they are. If you're not 100% sure, DO NOT risk it. Remember to change your privacy settings so that only your friends can see information about you, your wall posts and your photos.

- If someone is sending you messages or texts that you are worried about, tell your parents, an adult you trust, your teacher or your club's welfare officer.

- Remember that your coach is a professional, just like your teachers. They should not be your friend on Facebook, and should not be texting or messaging you.

    - You can expect them to make arrangements for coaching and matches via your parents.
    - Bullying can happen online too, and it's known as cyber-bullying. If you, or someone you know, has had this happen to them you should tell an adult that you can trust.
    - Don't be afraid to tell someone if you have concerns.
    - Have a look at the Think You Know page on the internet for more information about staying safe online: http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Young people DO's

- **DO** keep your photos and personal information private
- **DO** conduct yourself in a respectful and courteous manner on social media as you would at home, in school or at cricket.
- **DO** tell a professional or an adult you trust if you are worried or concerned about online behaviour or unwanted contact/ communication.
- **DO** report any indecent image or video footage to the Internet Watch Foundation - they can have these removed https://www.iwf.org.uk

Young people DO NOT's

- **DO NOT** send inappropriate text messages or post messages on social media that are offensive, nasty or derogatory in any way
- **DO NOT** accept any friend requests from people you don't know or you feel uncomfortable accepting Putting things in place
- **DO NOT** send or forward any indecent images of yourself, someone you know, or anyone you don't know, even if it seems to be done in jest. It is wrong and it is against the law.