

Bay Country Figure Skating Club

Electronic Communications Policy

BCFSC is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for members' physical, emotional and social development and ensuring that it promotes an environment free of misconduct. Effective communication concerning activities, schedules, and administrative issues among coaches, members and their families, officials, and volunteers is critical. However, the use of electronic communications (including mobile devices, web-based applications, social media, and other forms of electronic communication) increases the possibility for improprieties and misunderstandings, and also provides potential offenders with unsupervised and potentially inappropriate access to minor skaters. The improper use of electronic communications can result in misconduct. Accordingly, all members shall adhere to this Electronic Communications Policy at all times.

Social Media

BCFSC shall maintain a website for the purpose of communicating non-personal information about club/skating related activities. This includes communication designed to show support of BCFSC members and their accomplishments, and for the promotion of BCFSC, its programs, and events.

All electronic communication of any kind between adults and minors under the age of 18, including the use of social media, must be non-personal in nature and be for the purpose of communicating information about club/skating-related activities. Coaches are cautioned against having skating students join their Facebook page or other similar media application.

No contact information for any minor will be placed on the BCFSC website or any social media site established by BCFSC in the future. A Media Release Form shall be signed by the minor's parent or legal guardian before distribution or posting of photos, videos, images, etc. on any form of social media. The membership chair shall retain and record signed release.

Email, Text Messaging and Similar Electronic Communication

All email and text message content between adults and minors under the age of 18 must be non-personal in nature and be for the purpose of communicating information about club/skating activities.

Emails and text messages from any adult to any minor member must copy or include a parent. A parent may grant permission for electronic communication between a coach and minor by writing a formal written request. All electronic content between the adult and the minor should be readily available to share with the public or the families of the skater or coach/adult.

Coaches, skaters, and club volunteers must follow common sense guidelines regarding the volume and time of day of any allowed electronic communications.

Request To Discontinue All Electronic Communication or Imagery with Minors

Following receipt of a written request by the parents of a minor under the age of 18 that their child not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches or other adults in the program, CVFSC and its members shall immediately comply with such request without any repercussions for such request.

Violations

Social media and other means of electronic communication can be used to commit abuse and misconduct (e.g., emotional, sexual, 'sexting', bullying, harassment, and hazing). Such communications by any coach, skater, parent, volunteer, or other participant in any BCFSC activities will not be tolerated and will be considered violations of BCFSC Athlete Protection Policy and the USFS SafeSport Program.

Violations of BCFSC Electronic Communications Policy should be reported pursuant to BCFSC Reporting Policy.