



DAREBIN PICKLEBALL CLUB INC.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Version Date: June 2025

PURPOSE

Social Media is an online interactive/technical platform that allows people to interact, chat, connect or collaborate online. Each social medium is slightly different, but they are all based on a common idea – “the idea of sharing”.

Darebin Pickleball Club (DPC) encourages the use of Social Media and recognises and appreciates the value of Social Media as a tool for the pickleball community to engage, communicate, learn, share and drive innovation. As Social Media is shared in the public realm, it is vital that the valuable public reputation of DPC, Pickleball Victoria (PV), Pickleball Australia Association’s (PAA’s), sponsors and other DPC stakeholders is protected. Therefore, DPC prohibits communication that is defamatory, obscene, misrepresentative or for commercial purposes.

DPC has developed this Social Media Policy (Policy) to protect and educate the local pickleball community and to promote and encourage the appropriate use of Social Media by DPC’s community.

Application of this Policy

This Policy applies to conduct and behaviour which is not otherwise captured by DPC’s Code of Conduct, or Other DPC Policies. Where there is any inconsistency between this Policy and the Other DPC Policies, those Other DPC Policies shall prevail to the extent of such inconsistency.

If anything in this Policy is inconsistent with any Federal, State or Territory law, the relevant Federal, State or Territory law prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

This policy applies to all persons who are involved with the activities of DPC, whether they are in a paid or unpaid/voluntary capacity and including:

- Members, including life members of DPC.
- Persons appointed or elected to DPC committees and sub-committees.
- Employees of DPC.
- Support personnel, including managers, physiotherapists, psychologists, masseurs, sport trainers and others.
- Coaches and assistant coaches.
- Athletes.
- Referees, umpires and other officials.
- Member associations.
- Spectators and family members.

Any penalty imposed upon a person under this Policy must be recognised and respected by all Pickleball Organisations.

Definitions

The following terms have the following meanings in this policy:

Social Media: means interactive electronic forums or online media where people are communicating, posting, participating and sharing. For the purposes of this Policy, Social Media extends to:

- a. Material communicated electronically, whether written, photographic, video or audio which is accessible by more than the individual poster alone.
- b. Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, Myspace, Yammer, Snapchat, TikTok, Foursquare, LinkedIn, Wikipedia, Flickr and similar services.
- c. Blogs, social networking sites, instant messaging, social bookmarking, podcasting, media sharing and collaborative editing websites.
- d. Any other forum which might be classified reasonably as social media as the term is generally understood.
- e. Any other forum available for public comment.

Bound individual: Any person(s) to whom this policy applies.

Conditions of Using Social Media

When using Social Media individuals must not:

- a. Make posts that are abusive or harass or threaten any other person including DPC staff, players, officials or members of pickleball organisations.
- b. Abuse others or expose others to content that is offensive, inappropriate, obscene, insulting, provocative or hateful including in relation to DPC staff, players, officials or members of pickleball organisations.
- c. Impersonate or falsely represent any other person.
- d. Post inaccurate or misleading or deceptive content.
- e. Make defamatory or libellous comments.
- f. Post material that infringes the intellectual property rights of others or breaks any other law including privacy, defamation or harassment.
- g. Post content that interferes with the conduct of any event run by DPC.
- h. Post content that violates security measures instituted at any DPC facility
- i. Comment in a way that may harm the reputation of a Bound Individual, another member of DPC or DPC's sponsors and stakeholders.
- j. Use Social Media platforms as a forum for disputes or grievances.
- k. Use DPC or affiliated brands (including sponsors and suppliers) to endorse or promote any product or service, opinion, cause or political candidate.
- l. Use videos or images of others without express prior permission.
- m. Publish, post or release information that is considered confidential and not for the public. If it seems confidential, it probably is.

When posting on any PV Social Media platforms an individual must not:

- a. Promote their commercial interests in any manner
- b. Make excessive postings on a particular issue or post multiple versions of the same opinion or information
- c. Post internet addresses, links to websites, email addresses.
- d. Include personal information about themselves or others in posts (for example, email addresses, private addresses or phone numbers).
- e. Identify and discuss other people and business including other players, officials or coaches unless they have their explicit permission to do so.

Commented [WU1]: Is this section from PV's policy?

In addition, all Individuals are solely responsible for all comments that they post on Social Media. Individuals making personal comments should make it clear that the views expressed are their own and are not a representation of the views of DPC.

Consequences of a Breach of this Policy

In circumstances of a breach or suspected breach of this policy, DPC may:

- a. Make a necessary public comment such as a correction, clarification, contradiction or apology in regards to the breach.
- b. Issue a formal warning to the Bound Individual responsible for the breach.
- c. Report any breach of any law to any local authority or wronged party.
- d. Take any disciplinary action available to it.
- e. Exercise any of its available rights at law.

DPC may also remove posts from DPC's Social Media pages and request those who are bound by this Policy to remove posts from their personal Social Media pages and deal directly with Social Media providers to remove any posted material that it considers to be in breach of this Policy.

In addition Individuals who communicate their opinions and any other materials on Social Media do so at their own risk. An individual may be held personally liable for any commentary and/or material which may be defamatory, obscene or proprietary.

Reporting a Breach of this Policy

DPC encourages its staff, players, officials and all individuals to report any use of Social Media which may be in breach of this Policy. Details of alleged breaches of this Policy can be emailed to secretary@darebinpickleballclub.org.au. Breaches will be investigated by DPC Executive Committee members.

Privacy

DPC may record any information posted on Social Media platforms operated by DPC and may use that information for the purpose of administering such Social Media platforms or any other purpose consistent with DPC's objectives. PV's privacy policy may be reviewed at <https://darebinpickleballclub.org.au>. DPC strongly recommends that all individuals bound by this Policy protect their own personal privacy by not including personal information in Social Media

communications (for example, email addresses, residential addresses or telephone numbers).

Useful Websites

DPC's Privacy Policy and other policies can be accessed at <https://darebinpickleballclub.org.au>.

'Think U Know Australia' is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Microsoft Australia, ninemsn and Datacom which aims to raise awareness among parents, carers and teachers of the issues that young people face online. The website provides information on the technologies and applications young people use to have fun online, the risks they may face and how to stay in control, and how to report when things go wrong. thinkuknow.org.au.

'Play by the Rules' provides information, resources, tools and free online training to increase the capacity and capability of administrators, coaches, officials, players and spectators to assist them in preventing and dealing with discrimination, harassment and child safety issues in sport. playbytherules.net.au.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) is dedicated to preventing all Australians from becoming victims of online crime by empowering them to use technology safely and responsibly. afp.gov.au/policing/cybercrime/crime-prevention.aspx.