

## **Vipers Volleyball Club Inc.**

### **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

As part of Vipers Volleyball Club Inc.'s emphasis on athlete safety, all electronic communications between a coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities.

As with any communication, the content of any electronic communication should be readily available to share with the athlete's family and or Vipers Volleyball Club Inc. At the request of a parent or guardian, any email, electronic text, social media or similar communication will copy or include the athlete's parents or guardians and also Vipers Volleyball Club.

### **FACEBOOK, MYSPACE, BLOGS AND SIMILAR SITES**

Coaches may not have athletes of Vipers Volleyball Club Inc.'s Team join a personal social media page. Athlete members and parents can friend the official Vipers Volleyball Club Inc. Team page and coaches can communicate to athlete members through the site. All posts, messages, text, or media of any kind between coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities or for team-oriented motivational purposes.

### **TWITTER, INSTANT MESSAGING AND SIMILAR MEDIA**

Coaches and athletes may "follow" each other. Coaches cannot "re-tweet" athlete message posts. All posts between coach and athlete must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities.

### **EMAIL AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Athletes and coaches may use email to communicate. All email content between coach and athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Where the coach is a staff member and/or volunteer, email from a coach to any athlete should come from the club website email center or the personal coaches email. All email's sent to the player or guardian must be CC'd or BCC'd with Vipers Volleyball Club's email address attached: [VipersVolleyballClub@gmail.com](mailto:VipersVolleyballClub@gmail.com) (the coach's return email address will contain [VipersVolleyballClub@gmail.com](mailto:VipersVolleyballClub@gmail.com)).

### **TEXTING AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Texting is allowed between coaches and athletes. All texts between coach and athlete must be professional and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities.

### **ELECTRONIC IMAGERY**

From time to time, digital photos, videos of practice or competition, and other publicly obtainable images of the athlete – individually or in groups – may be taken. These photos and/or videos may be submitted to local, state or national publications, used in club videos, posted on club or club associated websites, or offered to the club families seasonally on disc or other electronic form. It is the default policy of Vipers Volleyball Club Inc. to allow such practices as long as the athlete or athletes are in public view and such imagery is both

appropriate and in the best interest of the athlete and the club. Imagery must not be contrary to any rules as outlined in CLUB's Participant Safety Handbook.

### **REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS OR IMAGERY**

The parents or guardians of an athlete may request in writing that their child not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches (photography or videography).

### **MISCONDUCT**

Social media and electronic communications can also be used to commit misconduct (e.g., emotional, sexual, bullying, harassment, and hazing). Such communications by coaches, staff, volunteers, administrators, officials, parents or athletes will not be tolerated and are considered violations of our Participant Safety Handbook.

### **VIOLATIONS**

Violations of Vipers Volleyball Club's Electronic Communications and Social Media Policy should be reported to your Director, Katie Siciliano, which will then be forwarded to our Board of Directors for review and evaluation. Complaints and allegations will be addressed under Vipers Volleyball Club Inc.'s Disciplinary Rules and Procedures. Each case will be taken into account and treated in which the Board of Director's see fit.