



Ferring Cricket Club

Policy on the use of Social Media, texts, apps, email and messaging services.

Everyone in cricket is reminded that the Relevant Codes of Conduct apply online and in text and email communications. As part of this Ferring Cricket Club have created the following policy in accordance with the ECB guidelines.

Social Media

Club Officials / Coaches / Managers should have separate cricket-club related and personal pages; all contact with players should be through the former, and strictly in relation to training, coaching, matches and cricket related activity. As a member of Ferring Cricket Club you should also adjust the privacy settings for your personal account so that content is only visible to accepted 'friends'. This is to try and 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.

Club Officials/Coaches/Managers must remember that 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.

Ferring Cricket Club will also be mindful of any content that is posted online via the cricket-club website or other social media sites.

As a member of Ferring Cricket club you are representing the club, your communications should conform to 'Safe Hands' policy and guidance. 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 18 as stated in the

Texts, apps and emails: contacting Under 18 players

The Children Act defines a person under 18 years as a child. Ferring Cricket Club will make arrangements for under 18s via their parents or carers; this includes text and email or Whats App messages etc.

Ferring Cricket Club understood that in the case of over 16's this may not be ideal for the club 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 will enable parents to be able to monitor communications, but the 16 or 17 year old receives the information directly. If the Manager or Coach receive any responses that appear inappropriate they will be brought to the attention of the parent or carer and the Club Chairman and Welfare Officer.

No Manager/Coach will engage in individual text or email conversations with a 16 or 17 year old without their parent receiving the same messages from them. All contact with children should be in relation to coaching, matches and cricket-related activity.

Guidance for all adults involved with the Colts

Social Media: Do's and Don'ts Coaches / Managers / Clubs

Do'S

- Have separate social media accounts for cricket-club related and personal use. Keep your photos and personal information private. Apply the Codes of Conduct and appropriate professionalism to your behaviour online, by text and email. Obtain 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

Coaches / Managers / Clubs

DO NOT

Send text messages to juniors – make arrangements via their parents. Send private messages to children and young people via apps or social media. Invite or accept children and young people to become "friends". 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 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 your 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.

Ferring cricket club aims to keep all children and Young adults safe when using social media etc. As part of this process the following information will be available for parents and Carers to access via Ferring Cricket Clubs web site.

it's important to make sure that children are safe while they are using social media, texts and emails. As children have access to the internet from various devices, it can be more difficult to monitor their use. Information is available for parent/carers to help keep their child safe online: visit <https://www.net-aware.org.uk> for a good introduction. It may also be helpful 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. Parents can find all they 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, Ferring Cricket Club recognises that it is important that a child should feel 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

DO

- Make sure you are aware of who your child has contact with online and via text
- Be aware of The ECB and the club's expectations for coaches and social media
- Talk to your children about using social media.
- Provide your mobile number / email address if requested, so the club can contact you

Report any content you think may be improper or unlawful to the Internet Watch Foundation : <https://www.iwf.org.uk>

Information for children and Young People

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, don't 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

- Keep your photos and personal information private • Conduct yourself in a respectful and courteous manner on social media as you would at home, in school or at cricket. • Tell a professional or an adult you trust if you are worried or concerned about online behaviour or unwanted contact/communication.

Young people

DO NOT

- 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.
- 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 fun - it is wrong and it is against the law.