

## **Shoalhaven District Football Association (SDFA) Social Media Policy – March 2025**

**1. Purpose** This policy outlines the expectations and guidelines for social media use by all members, participants, clubs, officials, and videographers associated with Shoalhaven District Football Association (SDFA). It aims to ensure responsible and respectful online behaviour that aligns with SDFA's values and Football Australia's Code of Conduct.

**2. Scope** This policy applies to all SDFA-affiliated individuals, including players, coaches, referees, club officials, volunteers, parents, spectators, and videographers. It covers all social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), TikTok, YouTube, and club websites.

### **3. General Guidelines**

- Social media must be used in a positive, respectful, and responsible manner that upholds the integrity of SDFA and its participants.
- Online content must not bring SDFA, its clubs, officials, or members into disrepute.
- Confidential or sensitive information must not be disclosed online.
- Individuals must not engage in cyberbullying, harassment, discrimination, or any form of online abuse.
- Any grievances must be addressed through official SDFA channels, not on social media.

### **4. Videographers and Media Content**

- Any person or organisation recording SDFA-affiliated matches, training sessions, or events for media purposes must have prior approval from SDFA.
- Consent must be obtained from clubs and/or individuals before publishing footage of minors.
- Recorded content must not be used to target, criticise, or intimidate players, referees, coaches, or officials.
- Footage must not be altered in a way that misrepresents events, players, or the game.
- Any commercial use of SDFA event footage must be approved by SDFA.

### **5. Prohibited Conduct**

- Posting offensive, defamatory, or discriminatory content related to SDFA, its clubs, officials, or members.
- Sharing false, misleading, or harmful information.
- Using social media to intimidate, harass, or threaten any individual associated with SDFA.
- Filming or posting unauthorised footage of matches, players, or referees.
- Commenting on ongoing disciplinary matters.

## **6. Reporting and Consequences**

- Any breaches of this policy should be reported to SDFA for review.
- SDFA reserves the right to request the removal of any content deemed inappropriate.
- Individuals or clubs found violating this policy may face disciplinary action, including fines, suspensions, or bans from SDFA events.

**7. Compliance with Governing Bodies** This policy aligns with Football Australia's Code of Conduct, Football NSW Member Protection Framework, and relevant laws concerning online behaviour, privacy, and child protection.

**8. Review and Amendments** SDFA will review this policy annually and make necessary updates to ensure it remains relevant and effective.

**Contact Information** For any concerns or questions regarding this policy, please contact SDFA at [secretary@shoalhavenfootball.com.au](mailto:secretary@shoalhavenfootball.com.au)

Endorsed at SDFA Board meeting 26 March 2025.