

## **Social Media Policy**

## Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to educate all members of the BADGHA Community about the risks of social media and to inform everyone that conduct deemed inappropriate may result in disciplinary action from Team officials, BADGHA, the Ontario Women's Hockey Association, or Hockey Canada.

This Social Media Policy applies to all public communications made through various internet platforms, including but not limited to Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and YouTube.

The policy is applicable to all members of the Belmont Aylmer Dorchester Girls Hockey Association (referred to as "BADGHA"), including Directors, Board Members, Team Members, Coaching Staff, Players, Billets, on-ice and off-ice Officials, as well as players' family members and supporters. Collectively, these individuals will be referred to as the "Community."

BADGHA recognizes the "Social Networking Policy" set forth by the Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA) and this policy serves as a supplement to those guidelines.

BADGHA values social media and acknowledges its importance; however, we also recognize that it can lead to inappropriate and unsupervised behavior, which may harm the welfare of the BADGHA Community. While we respect the right of all teams and association personnel to express their views publicly, it is crucial to be mindful of the potential dangers associated with social media.

## **Guidelines:**

- 1. The BADGHA Organization holds the entire BADGHA Community, including all participants on social media, to the same standards as it does for other media formats, such as radio, television, and print.
- 2. Inappropriate comments or remarks that are harmful to a team, the Association, or any individual will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action.
- 3. Social media comments are considered public records and are instantly published, making them available to the public and media. This means that everyone—

- including Association and Team personnel, players, corporate partners, and the media—can review social media communications. Therefore, you should always conduct yourself in a professional and appropriate manner.
- 4. Refrain from sharing confidential information related to individuals or the team. Avoid disclosing business strategies or game plans that could give another team or individual a competitive advantage. Additionally, do not discuss injury details about any specific player.
- 5. Use your best judgment at all times; take a moment to pause before posting.

## **Social Media Violations:**

- 1. Any statements that are publicly critical of Association Officials or harmful to the welfare of a Member Team, its personnel, or individuals in the BADGHA Community are prohibited.
- 2. Sharing confidential information that directly impacts an Association Team is not allowed.