

Southern Counties East Football League (SCEFL) Social Media Policy

1. Purpose

The Southern Counties East Football League (SCEFL) recognises that social media is an important way for clubs, players, officials, and supporters to communicate, promote the game, and share achievements. This policy ensures that all use of social media connected to the League is respectful, responsible, and in line with the values of football.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- League officials, match officials, and staff
 - Clubs, managers, coaches, players, and volunteers registered with SCEFL
 - Any individuals posting content that directly references the League or its competitions
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3. General Principles

- **Respect:** All comments, posts, and images should show respect for others involved in football – including opponents, referees, league officials, and supporters.
 - **Representation:** When posting about the League, individuals should remember they are representing both their club and SCEFL.
 - **Accuracy:** Information shared should be accurate and not misleading. Speculation, rumours, or unverified claims should not be published.
 - **Responsibility:** Each person is responsible for what they post online. Even personal accounts can reflect on clubs and the League.
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4. Unacceptable Use

The following will not be tolerated:

- Abusive, offensive, threatening, or discriminatory comments (including racism, sexism, homophobia, or other forms of hate speech).

- Criticism of referees, match officials, or opposition teams in a disrespectful manner.
 - Posting confidential information about the League, clubs, players, or officials.
 - Sharing content that damages the reputation of SCEFL, The FA, or football in general.
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5. Consequences of Misuse

- Posts in breach of this policy may be referred to the relevant County FA and could result in disciplinary action.
 - Clubs and individuals may face fines, suspensions, or other sanctions under FA Rules.
 - Serious or repeated breaches may also result in removal from League competitions or roles.
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6. Best Practice Guidelines

- Clubs agree to promote themselves and the League in a positive light.
 - Celebrate achievements, milestones, and the spirit of the game.
 - Think before posting – if in doubt, don't post.
 - Use official SCEFL and club channels for match updates, results, and announcements.
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7. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the League Committee to ensure it remains relevant and effective.
