

St. Susanna Boosters Social Media Policy

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are writing you to clarify elements of the Boosters policy on the misuse of social media. Unfortunately, this has become a growing issue with both children and parents across the country and we are not immune from it in our community. Recently, we have been made aware of several incidences of the misuse of social media within our program, so we feel it is necessary to create awareness. We will address those who violate the policy, but it is also important for everyone to remember there are victims of misuse as well.

Most of the inappropriate use of Social Media is done on mobile devices. Our Boosters program doesn't have any jurisdiction for anything that happens outside of our events or teams nor are we going to police it, but if a violation related to our program is brought to our attention we will take swift and strict measures. There will be a zero-tolerance policy within our program.

The responsibility for monitoring a child's use of social media, or indeed the internet in general, must lie with parents/guardians. We strongly encourage you to discuss issues around this with your children. We have listed examples below of some of the more common violations. It should be noted that in many cases a child may put themselves at considerable risk due to the misuse of social media accidentally giving personal details, publishing photographs, etc. to a 'friend' who then distributes this information more widely. They need to be fully aware of this risk. Once something is posted online, it can be forever!

Examples of Social Media Violations within Boosters:

- Posting pictures of inappropriate body language in a St. Susanna Uniform or at Booster related event.
- Labeling Booster related pictures with inappropriate titles or names that phonetically sound out as inappropriate language.
- Posting negative comments about coaches, players, teammates, officials, facilities, opponents, or anything related to the Boosters program.
- Social Media is defined as website and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking. For the purposes of Boosters this also includes group texting and emails.

"Boosters related" refers to any post with a St. Susanna uniform, game or practice site, referring to a game or team, or in any way generally related to the program.

These same violations apply to parents. If you are frustrated with a coach, referee, or facility, etc., please do not post your comments on Social Media.

Penalties for Social Media Violations:

- All incidents will be handled on a case by case basis
- At a minimum, a one to two-week suspension from games and practices will be applied
- Severe incidents may result in an indefinite to permanent suspension from our Boosters program

Please make sure you talk to your children about this email and as a safe measure please review the Code of Conduct with them as well.

If your child is the victim of inappropriate use, then we strongly recommend that you as a parent/guardian report the matter.

Thank you for your support.

St. Susanna Boosters Board