

Guidelines for Internet and Social Media Use

We all know that online and mobile communication has become very important for connecting coaches, athletes and the rest of the paddlesport community together. However, we also must put in place the right guidelines to ensure that children and young people stay safe online.

We ask that all parents and athletes spend a few minutes to read through and discuss the statement below and then confirm your agreement.

- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using the internet and social media for Paddle Cymru or any affiliated clubs, including the content I access and how I conduct myself.
- I understand that the Paddle Cymru Code of Conduct still applies when online.
- I will not deliberately create, browse or access material that could be considered offensive or illegal. If I accidentally come across any such material, I will report this to a member of staff or my parents.
- I will not use social media or the internet to send anyone material that could be considered threatening, offensive, upsetting, bullying or that is illegal.
- I understand that I should only use Paddle Cymru's official social media or website communication channels to contact staff and should not seek out individual members of staff or coaches on social media.
- I understand that my parents will be included in all text, email, online and phone communications between me and my coaches and will be asked to join any Paddle Cymru online forums or groups.
- If I need to speak with a coach one-to-one online or on the phone, I understand that this will normally take place at a scheduled time which the coach will arrange with me and my parents, who will be invited to join the conversation too.
- I understand that all my use of internet and social media is potentially visible to everyone and that any issues involving my behaviour online may be addressed by my coach or Paddle Cymru.
- I will not record or screenshot any video calls without permission from everyone on the call.
- I will not give out any of my personal information (such as name, age, passwords, address, school or telephone number) online, or that of anyone else.
- I will not arrange to meet someone that I have met online.
- I understand that these rules are designed to keep me safe, and if they are not followed my parents may be contacted.
- I will avoid using my mobile or smartphone during face-to-face activities as I understand that it will have an impact on my safety and my opportunity to learn and achieve.
- I am aware that if I am experiencing bullying behaviour or abuse online, I can contact the Paddle Cymru Lead Safeguarding Officer at safeguarding@paddlecymru.org.uk or call 07496 018281.
- I know I can contact Childline on 0800 11 11 if I have any worries about something I've seen or experienced online.

We have discussed this statement and we agree to support the safe use of the internet and social media at Paddle Cymru.

Parent or guardian's name:	Insert name
Parent's signature: Date:	Insert date
Child's name:	Insert name
Child's signature: Date:	Insert date

Last reviewed: 9 April 2020