



Blue Lake Y Swim Club

Social Media Policy

This policy is effective for all club members creating or contributing to blogs, social networks (Facebook etc), virtual worlds or any kind of social media. The Committee of Blue Lake Y Swim Club expects all its members to understand and follow these guidelines.

WHEN YOU ENGAGE

If you participate in social media, please follow these guiding principles:-

- Post meaningful and at all times respectful comments – in other words, no spam and no remarks that can be deemed as offensive or disrespectful
- Always pause and think before posting
- When disagreeing with others opinions, keep it appropriate and polite
- Do not take to Social Media platforms to post remarks that can be deemed as hurtful to another member of the club, its coaches, staff, committee, fellow swimmers, officials and members of the wider swimming community under the auspice of Swimming Australia.
- Cyber Bullying via Social Media outlets will not be tolerated under any circumstances and any breach will be treated accordingly. Please note if in serious breach the relevant authorities will be contacted to deal with the matter.
- Do not use Social Media outlets as a means to making derogatory comments regarding the management, coaching, welfare, swimmers concerns, or issues with the club.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MEMBER WELFARE

The Blue Lake Y Committee views bullying on any level as extremely serious. Cyber bullying falls under this category. The Committee will follow up complaints of Bullying, Harassment, Intimidation and Victimization by any and all members. Current legislation determines Cyber-bullying as an international, repeated behaviour by an individual or group to cause distress or undue pressure to others using technology and social media outlets. The club deems Cyber-Bullying can occur via:

1. Email
2. Chat room exchanges
3. Discussion groups or forums
4. Instant messaging
5. Social networking sites such as Facebook, My space etc
6. Mobile phone use – text and picture messaging, video clips etc

Failure to adhere to this policy could see possible suspension, cancelling of membership and passing on serious cases to the appropriate authorities.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Be respectful – Your comments will be quickly noticed in social media environments

Write what you know – make sure you write and post about areas in the social media of your expertise. Parents of swimmers should not be making remarks on coaches training techniques via social media

Respect your Club – be aware of the far reaching powers of the internet. Remember you are responsible for your content and posts. What you write reflects back on your club

Your responsibility – what you post is ultimately your responsibility, so please treat it seriously and with respect

Be a leader – do not accept or post comments that hurt the overall brand and social perception of the club. Remember that Google has a long history!!

Did you screw up? – If you make a mistake in the Cyber World admit it. If you have posted a comment that can be deemed inappropriate remove it and apologise – be upfront and quick with your correction

Pause – if you are about to publish a comment about the club and or its members – don't shrug it off and hit send. Pause, Reflect and Think – what you type is your responsibility, so be sure.