

OV Toros FC

Social Network Policy for Players and Parents



Playing and competing for OV Toros FC is a privilege, not a right. Players and their parents both represent the club and act as role models whenever they leverage social media to communicate in a public manner about any of the following:

1. Their soccer team
2. Individual players and parents
3. Their soccer coach
4. The soccer club itself or anyone affiliated with it.

Social networks, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest and others have increased in popularity and are used daily by players and parents to communicate with each other and with the community at large. Participation in such social networks has significant benefits in building team dynamics and community, but also has potentially negative consequences, if misused.

Players and Parents of OV Toros FC are expected to adhere to the following guidelines when using social media when making any reference to OV Toros FC and its players, parents, teams, coaches and/or board members.

1. Take care when posting pictures or videos of players or other parents. Make sure the parents of players agree to have their child's photo posted online and are okay with any associated comments.
2. Where the wearing of OV Toros FC apparel is involved, do not post photos or videos of players, parents, or yourself while engaging in inappropriate or offensive behavior, such as smoking, consuming or making reference to drugs or alcohol, using offensive language, or making sexual references/gestures.
3. While players and parents have the right to free speech, that right is not unlimited. Bullying is a serious problem and can lead to violence, suicide and depression. Do not post threats, negative comments or derogatory language about opponents, teammates, coaches, other parents, board members or anyone affiliated with OV Toros FC or any other soccer club.
4. Any threats of violence or derogatory comments where race, color, religion, age, gender, disability, political belief or sexual orientation are involved will not be tolerated.
5. Refrain from "Liking", "Retweeting", marking as a "Favorite" or by any other means showing approval of, any of the above activities. Such "liking" indicates your approval of such comments and/or activities, and holds you to the same standard as the original poster.

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Parents and players should be aware that their online actions have consequences. While OV Toros FC does not monitor social media accounts, it has the right to act on information brought to its attention by third parties, such as players, parents and community members. Violations of any of the above guidelines, including first time offenses, will be investigated by the OV Toros FC Board of Directors, the General Manager, and/or its associated committees. The Board of Directors or the General Manager reserves the right to sanction any player or parent who is in violation of the guidelines above. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Written notification, via email, from the BoD to the offending party, outlining the guidelines, and requiring the removal of any offensive content and ceasing posting any additional offensive content
2. Temporary suspension from one or more games for the parent and/or player
3. Temporary suspension from the team (player) or the sidelines (parent)
4. Suspension from the team for a defined time period
5. Indefinite suspension from the team
6. Dismissal from the team

Enrollment in OV Toros FC constitutes an agreement that the parent and/or player understands the information above and the associated disciplinary measures. This policy comes into effect as of March 1, 2020.