

Nevada Activities Social Networking and Media Use Policy

The Nevada Activities Department recognizes and supports its activity participants' rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of online social networks. In this context, however, each student-participant must remember that participating for Nevada is a privilege. Along with that privilege comes a set of expectations and responsibilities as a Nevada student-participant. You are held to a higher standard and are recognized locally and statewide as a member of this school district and your respective activity. You are expected to portray yourself, your team/group, your community, and the school district in a positive manner at all times.

Through social media, more individuals than ever before are now monitoring you, including Nevada fans, fans of opposing teams, and other community members. Everything you do in these forums should positively represent our school district and community. Used responsibly, social media can be a great way to interact with family, friends, fans, the public, and promote your activity and school. Used irresponsibly it can be a quick way to destroy your reputation in 140 characters or less! The Nevada Activities Department requires student-participants to exercise good judgment in their use of social media websites and to conduct these activities in a responsible and respectful manner.

Guidelines

If you participate on a social networking site or use social media, you must keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Everything you post is public information-any text or photo online is completely out of your control the moment it is placed online-even if you limit access to your site. Information (including pictures, videos, comments, and posts) may be accessible even after you remove it.
- Use caution when adding someone or inviting someone to be a friend. Many individuals are looking to take advantage of student-participants for the purposes of negative publicity.
- Limit information about your whereabouts or plans to minimize the potential of being stalked, assaulted, or the victim of other criminal activity.
- What you post may affect your future. Carefully consider how you want people to perceive you before you give them a chance to misinterpret your information (including pictures, videos, comments, and posts).
- Similar to comments made in person, the Nevada Activities Department will not tolerate disrespectful comments and behavior online, including but not limited to derogatory or inappropriate:
 1. Language
 2. Pictures
 3. Comments
 4. Videos

5. Posts

Any posting on a social media site that violates this Nevada Activities Social Networking and Media Use Policy may be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined below. Offenses accumulate during the school year, not by sport/activity.

1st Offense

- Meeting between participant and coach/sponsor
 - Coach/sponsor explains why the online post is inappropriate
 - Coach/sponsor can answer any questions by the student-participant about appropriate online posting
- Coach/sponsor contacts parent
- The inappropriate post must be taken down immediately or 2nd offense consequences are enacted

2nd Offense

- Meeting with coach/sponsor, student, parent, and Athletic Director
 - If possible, evidence of offense is provided
 - Specific tweet, photo, video, etc.
 - Discussion of future ramifications of inappropriate online posts
 - Scholarship rejection, exclusion from potential employment opportunities, etc.
 - Meeting must take place within five days or student is ineligible to participate until meeting occurs
- Educational component to be shared with families
- Inappropriate post must be taken down immediately or 3rd offense consequences are enacted

3rd Offense

- Meeting with coach, student, parent, and Athletic Director
- Suspension from participation in event(s) for five calendar days which must include at least one event at the student-participant's level of competition

4th Offense

- To be determined by administration

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have reviewed the Nevada Activities Social Media Policy and have received a copy of the Nevada Athletics Social Media Guidelines. You acknowledge that your social media activities reflect upon the reputation of the Activities Department and Nevada School District as a whole.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date