Online Safety and Social Media Policy

This policy has been developed to inform our club members about using social media (WhatsApp, Facebook, X, Tik Tok, Instagram and all other social networking sites and forums) so people feel enabled to participate, while being mindful of their responsibilities and obligations. In particular, this policy provides practical guidance allowing all parties to benefit from the use of social media, while minimising potential risks and protecting those involved.

Online behaviours

The Club Code of Conduct states the expected behavioural standards, this includes behaviour on social media. Here is some specific do's and don'ts to consider before posting on social media:

• Pause and think about what you are saying and the impact it might have

• Be careful, respectful and positive. You are personally responsible for what you post. If in doubt, don't post it.

• Think about your image – 'what do I want people to think about me or my club?'

• Respect confidentiality within the team e.g. tactics, squad information, announcements, coaching advice, training sessions.

• Remember many different audiences will see your posts including Club members, potential members, children, member's relatives, and friends.

• Be smart about protecting yourself, your privacy, and confidential information. What you publish is widely accessible and will be around for a long time, so consider the content carefully and your privacy settings.

• Don't post content that discriminates against individuals or groups on the basis of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy & maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

• Don't write anything on social media channels that you wouldn't feel comfortable seeing in a newspaper or hearing on TV. Everything you write is treated as a direct quote

• Don't speak negatively about other club members, competitors, officials or governing bodies. Never use slurs, personal insults or obscenity. Be professional and respectful.

• Be in the right state of mind when you make a post. Don't post when you're angry, upset, or your judgement is impaired in any way. Be very careful what you say, do and post because once it's on a social media channel, it can go viral very quickly.

• Don't engage in on-line disputes and don't allow family or friends to argue on your behalf.

Peacehaven Run Club Social Media Channels

With ever evolving forms of social media, the Peacehaven Run Club Committee will decide which channels are best for club promotion and engagement. New channels will be discussed and utilised as identified and any members wishing to propose the use of a new channel should make their suggestion to the Chair.

Channels in use by Peacehaven Run Club include:

• Facebook Page – Open to all
• Facebook Group – Members only
• Instagram – Open to all.

What we expect of club members

• members should be aware of this online safety and social media policy and the behaviours set out

• we expect members behaviour online to be consistent with the guidelines set out in the code of conducts and anti bullying statement

• members should take the necessary steps to protect themselves online. Children follow the age restrictions set out by social media companies

Policy breach

Club members who breach this policy (and other related policies) will face a warning in the first instance, persistent breaches will be dealt with through the club's grievance and disciplinary policy.

Any breaches of a safeguarding nature will be addressed through the club's safeguarding policy and procedure and, where appropriate, will be reported to UK Athletics.

 If you do have any concerns or would like to make a complaint please contact the club welfare officer or club social media officer.

Useful contacts

• Club Welfare Officer - welfareofficer@peacehavenrunclub.com - George Isaacs
• UKA 07920 532552/ safeguarding@uka.org.uk
• EA welfare@englandathletics.org
• The UK Safer Internet Centre https://saferinternet.org.uk/
• Anti-Bullying Alliance www.antibullyingalliance.org