

WIDE BAY COMBINE INC.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

This Policy has been produced by the Wide Bay Combine Inc. Management Committee.

This Policy outlines expected standards for online behaviour, covering aspects like respecting others, avoiding harassment and bullying, protecting personal information of others, and upholding the association's reputation.

This Policy has been produced to ensure safe and appropriate online engagement, protect against legal liability for defamation or privacy breaches, and maintain the integrity and trust with the community and/or stakeholders (if applicable).

It is a requirement that all Members of the Wide Bay Racing Pigeon Club and all Affiliate Clubs and members of those clubs within the Wide Bay Combine Inc. abide by, understand and commit to this policy. The mechanisms for reporting of any concerns or breaches should be clearly established and communicated first with the Wide Bay Management Committee.

Key Fundamentals and Components

- **Respectful Conduct:**

All Members & Affiliates should engage in online interactions with politeness and respect, refraining from posts that are insulting, discriminatory, or harassing.

- **Protecting Privacy:**

Never publish personal details (names, addresses, phone numbers) of other member's or affiliates online without explicit permission.

- **Upholding Reputation:**

All Members & Affiliates should avoid posting content that could damage the association's reputation and be mindful that their actions on social media reflect on the entire association.

- **Content Restrictions:**

Prohibit posts that are defamatory, harassing, threatening, or contain inappropriate content, including excessive swearing (vulgar or foul language) or links to offensive material.

- **Accuracy and Factual Information:**

Ensure any information shared about the association is factual and not misleading or is of a fake or made up nature to suit individual agendas and should first be approved by The Management Committee.

- **Confidentiality:**

Do not share confidential information belonging to the association or other members or affiliates.

- **Child Safety (if applicable):**

Never share photos, videos, or personal details of children without prior written consent from a parent or guardian on this social media platform.

- **Conflict of Interest:**

Disclose any potential conflicts of interest when posting.

- **Personal vs. Official Use:**

Clarify the difference between personal social media use and using social media for official associational purposes.

Why Policies Are Necessary

- **Mitigate Risk:**

Policies help reduce the risk of defamation lawsuits, privacy breaches, and damage to the association's reputation.

- **Maintain Trust:**

A clear policy builds trust with the public, members, affiliates and sponsors by demonstrating a commitment to ethical conduct.

- **Legal Compliance:**

Social media posts are subject to the same laws as other publications, so policies help ensure members and affiliates do not violate anti-discrimination, intellectual property, or privacy laws.

- **Provide Guidance:**

Policies give all member's and affiliates clear guidelines on what is expected, providing clarity and reducing ambiguity in their online behaviour.

Implementation and Enforcement

- **Training:**

All Member's and Affiliates can request training on the social media policy.

- **Reporting Mechanisms:**

Establish clear procedures for member's and affiliates to report concerns or inappropriate content found online related to the Association.

- **Monitoring:**

The Administrator and Committee will monitor all social media channels for inappropriate or unlawful content and take swift action to remove it.

- **Disciplinary Action:**

If it is found that any social media posting that is first uploaded and further commented on by individuals and is not in lockstep with this Policy, then the Administrator or Management Committee Member will take swift action to remove and delete such information from this social media platform.

Breaches of the Association's Constitution, Code of Conduct, Rules or Policies can/may result in disciplinary action.