

IMMAF SOCIAL MEDIA SAFEGUARDING GUIDELINES FOR UNDER 18 ATHLETES & EVENTS

For IMMAF Staff, Athletes, Legal Guardians, National Federations, IMMAF Licensed Event Organisers and Partner Organizations working with IMMAF

These guidelines outline safeguarding for children and young people that are applicable to IMMAF events and programmes that promote sport, education and youth development.

The guidelines illustrate IMMAF's commitment to support and respect children's and young people's rights to be protected from harm, and to providing a safe and protective environment for children and young people who are involved with any IMMAF events or programmes.

It is entirely acceptable for accredited persons to share their experience at IMMAF events and programmes through the internet or any other type of social and digital media, provided that it is done in a first-person, diary-type format and that the other requirements included in these guidelines are respected. Only the persons who are accredited as media may act as journalists, reporters or in any other media capacity while they are at the IMMAF event.

Postings made by, or on behalf of, accredited persons are expected conform to the IMMAF values of excellence, respect and friendship and must not be undertaken for the purposes of demonstration or any form of political, religious or racial propaganda.

Such postings should be within the bounds of dignity and common sense respecting personal dignity. It is unacceptable to be discriminatory, offensive, hateful, defamatory or otherwise illegal. The use of vulgar or obscene words or images is prohibited.

General Information for Parents and Legal Guardians

Discuss with your child about how they are using social media, what their concerns and interests may be and make clear what is OK and not OK, whenever necessary.

- Most social media platforms (TikTok, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat and Facebook) are intended for users aged 13 and over.

- Both iOS and Android provide parental controls that let you block or limit specific apps, features, movies, music, and more at the device level.
- We recommend familiarizing yourself with the parental controls available to you based on the device or browser you are using. For example, TikTok provides a Family Pairing tool to help parents and guardians keep their teens safe on TikTok. Also learn how to report inappropriate content or behavior in each platform.
- Stay aware of mean behavior among peers, inappropriate photos or videos that can hurt a teen's reputation or attract the wrong kind of attention, overuse and of course, privacy.
- Review experience tools, which include functions to limit who can see uploaded content, follow the account and send messages, and allow you to block people and manage comments, if necessary.

Guidelines for IMMAF Participants

When creating content (recording a video or taking a picture) for social media platforms:

1. Use a strong password and do not share it.
2. It is only permitted to film or photograph in authorised and unrestricted areas at Youth Events (as marked); and permission from the relevant authority is essential if filming/ photographing an under-18-year-old (i.e., from the National Team Head Coach or parent, as well as subject, or formal permission from IMMAF.)
3. Parents, legal guardians or coaches may discuss plans with their young athletes about how to best use social media to raise awareness of their involvement in sport.
4. It is recommended that all content created with other people and its purpose is explained fully to everyone involved and verbal consent is given by everyone before it is created.
5. If someone is uncomfortable with being recorded or taken pictures of, no pressure should be placed on them to do so.
6. It is not allowed to create content inside changing rooms or the weigh-in area (which are restricted areas).
7. It is not allowed to post sensitive media (rough, physical or sexually provocative games).

8. It is not allowed to post pictures and videos of athletes in vulnerable positions.
9. It is not allowed to post anything inciting violence, bullying, criminal acts, self-injury and/or harmful content.
10. It is not allowed to engage in any form of inappropriate touching.
11. It is not allowed to use inappropriate language unchallenged.
12. It is not allowed to make sexually suggestive comments to other young athlete.
13. Try to always create content in an open environment (e.g., avoid private or unobserved situations).
14. Your media represents you and is sometimes impossible to take back. Think about how the content will reflect on you later. Keep in mind that your posts have an impact and your media represents you, your family and your peers. Social media may have long lasting consequences and may be retrieved even if deleted. Look after your future reputation as well as your present achievements.
15. Consider the whole image. What is in the background of a photo or video could indicate where it was taken or what the people in it were doing at the time.
16. Be mindful of persons captured within frame or in the background of your content.
17. Treat all young athletes equally, and with dignity;
18. Be respectful to other athletes and fans;
19. Respect other athletes' privacy.