

### Somerset Cricket League Social Media Policy:

It is pleasing to see that many Cricket Clubs and Club members are using Social Media applications such as “Facebook”, “X” and “WhatsApp” groups to promote the activities of their clubs and to provide information for their players.

Sadly, however, abuse posted generally on Social Media is common so we are asking clubs to take responsibility for ensuring that their members do not engage in activities which may be seen as harassing, discriminatory, menacing, threatening, obscene, defamatory, or in any way objectionable or offensive towards other Clubs, Players, Umpires or League officials. Thankfully complaints are rare in our League but they are always dealt with as a Disciplinary matter and, if proven, a deduction of points and/or long player suspensions will result and the incident may be reported to the police for investigation under the Malicious Communications Act.

Please enjoy your use of Social Media but take care that others will not be offended by your postings. Don’t share or retweet inappropriate material. Incidents of Cyberbullying or exploitation will be taken very seriously.

We ask for your co-operation to keep this unpleasant trend away from The Somerset Cricket League and our game.

*For the purposes of this policy, Social Media includes all media (written or electronic), Club newsletters, match programmes, club or private websites, email, messaging, social networking (Facebook, X, Snapchat, Instagram, WhatsApp, Reddit, LinkedIn etc), chat, blog, video sharing (YouTube/Tik Tok) and other discussion groups.*

### Live Streaming Policy

The following England & Wales Cricket Board guidelines MUST be followed adhered to in order for a member club to stream a live Somerset Cricket League (any division).

- The club filming the game must obtain prior approval from both teams and the umpires at least 3 days prior to the match. If anyone declines, no filming can take place.
- Safeguarding Procedures must be followed.
- Clubs must check on day of the match that permissions have not changed seen seeking approval (team changes etc).
- Every effort MUST be made to ensure spectators are aware that filming is taking place and the purpose of the filming and how it will be used.
- The Somerset Cricket League’s Social Media Policy must be fully observed.
- Live streaming can be an extremely effective tool, but it is not a DRS system.
- Players or club officials videoing umpires on phones or cameras is not permitted at any time.
- Clubs are responsible for the actions of their players.
- Cameras can be located in any position including on the sightscreen, subject to any home ground regulations and agreement with the umpires operating.
- Any club who is live streaming must have their live streaming policy on their website.