



Model Boat Association Dover

Constitution & Rules - Appendix B

Social Media Policy

1. Introduction

The Model Boat Association Dover (hereinafter referred to as Association) believes that Social networking sites (such as, but not exclusively, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, WhatsApp etc.) are a useful way for keeping in touch with friends, family, and Association members, and are also a great way to exchange information. However, members must not forget that what they post on social networking sites may be seen across these networks and are reminded that they must not bring the Association into disrepute or cause any distress to any of its members.

2. Policy

The Association recognises that some members will make use of social networking in their own time, using their own equipment. Whilst there is no intention to restrict any proper and sensible exercise of the individual's rights and freedoms, it is expected that all Association members will conduct themselves in such a way as to avoid bringing the Association into disrepute or compromising its effectiveness. This policy has been prepared to protect the privacy, confidentiality, and interests of the Association. This policy only applies to Association related issues and is not meant to infringe upon an individual's personal interaction or commentary online. However, all Association members are asked to respect the privacy, confidentiality, and propriety of Association and those working on their behalf, and not post anything that might be considered to breach this. Members should take care when discussing information relating to Association's affairs as discussions can sometimes be misinterpreted and could potentially put other members or the public at large at risk. All members should be aware that any inappropriate posts made to social media sites could lead to disciplinary action and in extreme cases, civil and criminal liability. All members must take account of the following before posting to the internet, including engaging in blogging or the use of forums, video sharing or social networking sites.

Whilst it is a personal decision, it is suggested that members do not disclose their position as a member.

(Continued on next page)

Rev. 1 – 05/05/21



Model Boat Association Dover

Constitution & Rules - Appendix B

Social Media Policy

Members should be aware that the Association committee takes the posting at any time of offensive material, and the harassment, bullying or victimisation of its members via the Internet and social networking sites very seriously.

A breach of any of the following may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Members must not divulge any confidential information or information belonging to the Association which is not in the public domain or expand upon such information already available in the public domain. If any member disclose that they are attached to Association, then it must be made absolutely clear that any views expressed do not represent the official position of the Association but are the views of the individual. Members cannot write a blog in an official capacity unless sanctioned and minute by the Association committee, i.e. representing the views of the Association. If however, they give a personal opinion as an experienced person in a particular field, they must state that this is solely their view and not the view of the Association. Members must not use any Association logo or other copyright material that infers official endorsement of the photograph, article, document or opinion. Members must not display offensive images or make offensive comments, or in any way harass, intimidate, bully, victimise or discriminate against other members or employees

3. Model Boat Association Dover Committee Members Responsibilities

Association committee members have a duty to implement this policy and act if they become aware of any breach of this policy and take steps to promote awareness of this policy.

4. What to do if you believe you are being harassed, bullied, or victimised via a social networking site

If you are a member who believes that you are being harassed, bullied, or victimised as a result of another member's post to an internet site, it is open to you to take the necessary action. Members should contact the Association Chairman or another Committee member for support and guidance on the informal and formal action which can be taken.

(Continued on next page)



Model Boat Association Dover

Constitution & Rules - Appendix B

Social Media Policy

5. Consequences of not following this policy

Any member or employee found to be in breach of the above may be subject to disciplinary action. If they are also found to be in breach of the Data Protection Act 1998 or other relevant legislation or copyright, it could lead to criminal proceedings and prosecution.

----- End Of Document -----