



Social Media policy

- The purpose of the FODAC Facebook page is to enable members or followers of FODAC to communicate, make enquires, ask for help with an event or celebrate achievements of its members. This is an open site.
- England Athletics policy regarding Social media states that all athletics clubs are responsible for vetting their social media and ensuring that users are of the appropriate age (over 13) and that its content could not be misconstrued as offensive.
- Parents AND junior athletes MUST give their written consent to their photograph, name or data being placed on social media / Facebook. In order to achieve this, best practice is for all photographs to be vetted by The Forest of Dean Athletic Club, Facebook and Social Media administrator, to ensure that due diligence and safeguarding responsibilities are adhered to.
- Caution must be exercised by Trustees, Committee members and members when entering communication with one another. It is inadvisable to send messages privately to one another. This is to ensure that and communication pertinent to The Forest of Dean Athletic club remains transparent and open, and that comments from any party may not be misconstrued or misinterpreted as bullying.
- In order to ensure that we have shown due diligence and best practice, The Forest of Dean Athletic Club's Facebook page will **only** be open to people **over 13 years of age** (as per Facebook Policy and EA guidance: 'Introduction to Social Media').
- In order to safeguard both the coaches and athletes, it is not deemed appropriate for a Coach to accept a friend invitation from an athlete who is known to the coaching team as being under 13 years of age.
- Caution must also be exercised by Forest of Dean Athletic Club Coaches and officials in communications between themselves and anyone under 18 (Children's Act – under 18s legally defined as children), in order to avoid potential miscommunication. Best practice guidance is for Coaches to contact under 18's through their parent / guardian.

- The FODAC Facebook page is managed by one administrator – this is:
- 1) 1 Dave Lucas: contact details (not via facebook): tel: 07990646703 email: forestdave@

- The role of the administrators is to vet the contents of messages or photographs to ensure that it is appropriate.
- If deemed to be inappropriate, then Forest of Dean Athletic Club members MUST refer their concerns to the administrators. It will then be referred to the FODAC Club Welfare Officer, who will in turn refer it to England Athletics.
- Administrators have authority to delete other people’s posts or comments. They can also ban users of the FODAC Facebook page.
- All FODAC members are responsible for reporting misuse / inappropriate content to the clubs administrators.
- FODAC Facebook users must avoid using critical language or actions, such as sarcasm which could undermine an athlete’s self esteem.
- Members of the Forest of Dean Athletic Club should include avoidance of private messages through Social Media instead use of more ‘public’ comments boards

I hereby confirm that the social media policy will be upheld and adhered to by all committee members, trustees and members.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees of the Forest of Dean Athletic Club:

Name:(capitals):_____

Role within Trustees:_____

Signed:_____ Date:_____

Club Welfare Officer:_____ (Name in Capitals)

Signed:_____

Date: _____

