

Social Media, Acceptable Use, and Photos Protocols

United recognises the prevalence of electronic communication and social media in today's world. Many of our swimmers and parents use these means as their primary method of communication. The club acknowledges the value of these methods of communication and has established a policy for acceptable use of social media by our athletes. This policy is essential for the club to be able to provide a safe and positive environment for all its athletes. Swimming NZ has also published its Social Media Policy under its [Member Protection Policy](#) and the United policy should be read as in addition to that and not instead of the Swimming NZ policy

Acceptable Use Policy

Each United member must exhibit ethical and responsible conduct in all online communications and activities and respect the rights and privacy of all other United members. United expressly prohibits cyber bullying or cyber stalking of any United member by any means or method, including but not limited to the use of Facebook, text messaging, instant messaging, Twitter, e-mail, Instagram, Snapchat, and any other social media application. Cyber bullying and cyber stalking are unacceptable.

1. Be Respectful – ensure you post meaningful and at all times respectful comments, no spam and no remarks that can be deemed as offensive or hurtful. Your comments will be noticed and recorded forever in the social media environments. Remember you are responsible for your content and posts
2. Do not use social media to post photos or make comments about another person without their knowledge or consent. Additionally, anonymous message boards and forums where posters use names that keep them anonymous are not acceptable
3. Stick to your area of expertise and provide unique, individual perspectives on what's going on at the club
4. Always pause and think carefully before posting
5. If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as that of United. Remember, always present a positive image, and don't do anything to embarrass yourself, the team, your family or the club or cause offense
6. Note that the club does not support or endorse any other squad or group related discussion platforms other than those established by the United squad manager and United coach.

Social Media Welfare

The United Committee views bullying on any level serious and will not be tolerated. The Committee will follow up complaints of bullying including complaints of harm by electronic communications and will take appropriate action.

All communications between a coach or adult and a swimmer must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. The content and intent of all electronic communications must adhere to Swimming NZ's standards, rules, and policies. Please always operate within these rules and the spirit of the sport that govern Swimming NZ.

Club Photos

As a member of United you understand and agree that the Club may post photos of its members on its web site, Facebook and Instagram page and other social media, newsletters and at functions such as prizegiving. The Club will only post photos that it considers to be appropriate, however, if there is a photo posted by the Club of a member that either the member or their parent/guardian considers to be inappropriate, then please contact the Club President or Secretary to have the photo removed.