

FAHA electronic media policy

All electronic communication between coach and player must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Coaches and players must follow common sense guidelines regarding the volume and time of day of any allowed electronic communication. Any content of an electronic communication should be readily available to share with the public or families of the player or coach. If the player is under the age of 18, any email, electronic text, social media, or similar communication must copy or include the player's parents.

Social Media (Facebook, myspace, blogs and similar sites)

Online discussion boards, mass emails, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media make it easy to share ideas and experiences. USA Hockey recognizes, however, that social media, mobile, and other electronic communications can be especially concerning where youth participants are involved. Coaches are prohibited from having players joined to their personal social media page. To facilitate communication, an official organization or team page may be set up and players and parents may join (i.e., "friend") the official organization or team page and coaches can communicate to players through the site. All posts, messages, text, or media of any kind between coach and player must be non-personal in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities or for team oriented motivational purposes

Email, Text Messaging and similar electronic communications

Coaches and players may use email and text messaging to communicate. All email and text message content between coach and player must be non-personal in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Emails and text messages from a coach to any youth player must include a copy to parents. Where possible, a coach should be provided and use the organization web site email center (the coach's return email address will contain "@ORGANIZATION.com") for all communications with the team and players.