



## **HILLSBOROUGH AQUATIC CLUB SAFE SPORT ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY**

All electronic communication from Applicable Adults (Coaches, HAC Staff, Chaperone) to minor athletes must be professional in nature.

Absent emergency circumstances, if an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communications (including social media), the minor athlete's legal guardian must be copied. If a minor athlete communicates to the Applicable Adult (with authority over the minor athlete) privately first, said Applicable Adult must copy the minor athlete's legal guardian on any electronic communication response to the minor athlete.

When an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes communicates electronically to the entire team, said Applicable Adult must copy another adult.

Legal guardians may request in writing that their minor athlete not be contacted through any form of electronic communication by HAC or by an Applicable Adult subject to this Policy. The organization must abide by any such request that the minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, or included in any social media post, absent emergency circumstances.

Electronic communications may only be sent between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., unless emergency circumstances exist, or during competition travel.

Applicable Adults with authority over minor athletes are not permitted to maintain private social media connections with unrelated minor athletes and such Applicable Adults are not permitted to accept new personal page requests on social media platforms from minor athletes, unless the Applicable Adult has a fan page, or the contact is deemed as celebrity

contact as opposed to regular contact. Existing social media connections with minor athletes must be discontinued. Minor athletes may “friend” HAC’S official social medial page(s).

Applicable Adults with authority over minor athletes may not send private, instant or direct messages to a minor athlete through social media platforms.