

Plant High School Social Media and Hazing Policy

Social Media Policy and Guidelines for Student Athletes

Plant High Rowing (PHRA and/or “Plant Crew”) recognizes and supports the student-athletes’ rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of social media; however, parents and student-athletes must acknowledge that playing and competing for Plant Crew is a privilege and not a right. As a student-athlete, you have the responsibility to portray your team, your school, and yourselves in a positive manner at all times. For purposes of this policy, social media means any form of electronic communication through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content.

Student-athletes should understand that third parties, including the media, faculty, and future potential NCAA officials can easily access your social media profiles and view all personal information. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student-athlete and Plant Crew. Student-athletes need to remember that NOTHING is private on social media.

Plant Crew will not tolerate disrespectful comments and behavior online, such as:

- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity. Examples: derogatory comments regarding another individual; taunting comments aimed at a Plant student-athlete or coach, or athletic representative at another institution; derogatory comments against race, gender, and sex.
- No photos, videos, posts, or comments should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent, or illegal activities. Examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, nudity, inappropriate gestures, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking, and illegal drug use.

Student-athletes found to have violated the Plant High School Social Media and Hazing Policy may be subject to the following penalties:

1. Verbal or Written Warning
2. Meeting with Head Coach and/or Club Sponsor
3. Removal from practices/regattas for a specified period of time
4. Removal from the Plant Crew team

Hazing

Hazing is defined as recklessly or intentionally endangering the mental or physical safety or health of any student for purposes including, but not limited to, initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of a high school and in accordance with section 1006.63, F.S.

Plant Crew strives to maintain a healthy athletic program in which all students feel safe and welcome and can be proud of the school and rowing program they represent. I understand that hazing of any kind is not allowed at Plant High School and in the rowing program. This includes mental, verbal, and physical acts. I further understand that it is my duty to report any acts of hazing that I see to a coach or to the Plant Crew club sponsor on campus.

The undersigned parent/guardian and student-athlete acknowledge having received an adequate opportunity to review this agreement, including policies on Hazing and Social Media. By signing below, we agree to uphold the School Policy and understand that any violation may result in the athletes’ immediate suspension from the Plant Crew team and further disciplinary action as outlined in school policy and procedures.

Student Name:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date: