

Social Media and Internet Policy

5.1 Introduction

a) The SPS-BS acknowledges the importance of the internet and social media sites such as Facebook, X, Messenger, Linked In, WhatsApp, email, home webpages, chat rooms, BBM and all other forms of electronic communication and the role which “social media” plays in the day to day lives of members.

b) This policy note is to remind members that the Rules of the SPS-BS apply to members when using social media and the internet. Failure to adhere to this policy note could lead to disciplinary action being taken against a member, which may result in suspension or termination of membership.

5.2 Using Social Media

a. You should be aware that the SPS-BS may from time to time carry out internet searches to identify postings which include references to the SPS-BS and its members.

b. SPS-BS produced images are the subject of copyright and should not be copied or used in social media save as provided in the SPS-BS website user terms and conditions.

c. You should ensure that any material that you transmit or post to social media is clearly stated to be your personal view and is not held out to be, or could be mistaken as, the view of the SPS-BS.

d. You must not post or transmit any material which could damage the name or reputation of the SPS-BS, its members, or former members, or which is derogatory to the character of or prejudicial to the interests of the SPS-BS.

e. You must not post or transmit any material relating to the SPS-BS, members or former members or their horses or ponies, or which could otherwise be associated with, or which may reasonably be attributed as coming from the SPS-BS:

i. that is threatening, defamatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, abusive, liable to incite racial hatred, discriminatory, menacing, scandalous, inflammatory, blasphemous, in breach of confidence, in breach of privacy or which may cause annoyance, distress or inconvenience; or

ii. which constitutes or encourages conduct that would be in breach of the SPS-BS. Rules, or constitutes a criminal offence, or which could give rise to civil liability, or otherwise, be contrary to the laws of, or infringe the rights of any third party in, the UK or any other country in the world.

f. Any breach of this policy note may constitute a breach of the SPS-BS Rules and could also lead to civil and/or criminal proceedings being brought against you.

5.3 Disclosure under Law or Regulation

You should be aware that the SPS-BS will fully co-operate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting or directing the SPS-BS to disclose the identity or locate anyone posting any material in breach of this policy. If we are requested by the police or any other regulatory or government authority investigating suspected illegal activities to provide your personal information, the SPS-BS is entitled to do so.