



## OLOA SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Adopted by OLOA Board on 10/30/16

As the Oregon Lacrosse Officials Association, we recognize that, at all times, we represent not only ourselves, but also our fellow officials, our assigner, the OHSLA member schools, the entire officiating community, and the sport of lacrosse as a whole. We also recognize that, as officials, anything we say (verbally, on film, in print, or through social media) about a game, player, coach, parent, or rule may carry a certain weight and/or credibility by virtue of our position as officials. We are presumed not only to be authorities on the rules and mechanics of the game, but are also presumed to be unbiased.

In order to protect the integrity and reputation of all officials, and the game of lacrosse itself, we recognize that we must refrain from any comment or communication which can be recorded, transmitted or published, either by word, recording, film, or in any form of social media (including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.). As a guideline, it is **STRONGLY** recommended that before you send or post any message or comment to stop and think: "Are these words appropriate in ALL respects?" Be mindful that once you click "send" or "post", you can no longer retrieve the message or comment. Further, be aware that posts on social media may be visible to the general public. Even if you limit access to your page or comments to "friends", it is likely that your post will be viewed by someone beyond the circle of people you intended to view it.

Of particular concern to the Oregon Lacrosse Officials Association are:

- Comments which are, or can be deemed to be, in any way critical or derogatory about a team, player, coach, school, assigner, fellow official, parent, fan, sponsor, or any institution that we represent or interact with.
- Comments that may in any way be construed to be racist, sexist, or otherwise prejudiced, derogatory, or inappropriate.
- Actions or words which could be construed as bullying, intimidation, or threats against any player, coach, fellow official, parent, or fan.
- Negative, critical, or derogatory comments about any game, play, or rules/mechanics application or interpretation outside of proper training, evaluation, or qualified OLOA gathering.
- Acts or social media posts which violate the By-Laws of the OLOA.

Accountability and integrity are guiding principles of the officiating profession. Any violation of the aforementioned guidelines, depending upon the nature and severity thereof, as determined in the sole discretion of the OLOA Board of Directors, could result in one or more of the following sanctions:

- Letter of Reprimand
- Loss of Game Assignments
- Termination of OLOA Membership