



ABN NO 35 132 113 423 CERTIFICATE NO A13884G AFFILIATED WITH NETBALL VICTORIA

Ariels VCNA (Victorian Churches Netball Association)

(Now written as AVCNA)

Policy Title:	Ariels Cyber safety & Social Media Policy
Date Written:	15 Jan 2014
Current Status:	To be Approved by Board 2014

Updates to Policy

Update No:	Approval Date	Nature Of Amendment	Update Author
As At Jan 2014 #1		Written & Approval	Janine Kilmartin Christina Puopolo
As at Jan 2018		Update logo and association name	Nicole O'Hare

Scope

The Cyber safety & Social Media Policy and associated procedures applies to the Ariels Victorian Churches Netball Association Board, employees, members and all appropriate personal.

All decisions made in accordance with this policy will be final and there will be no appeals.

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POLICY

Ariels VCNA, now known as **ACVNA**.

1. Definitions

- **Cyber safety**

Refers to the safe and responsible use of the Internet and ICT equipment/devices, including mobile phones.

- **ICT**

Means Information and Communication Technologies

- **ICT devices/equipment**

Includes, but is not limited to, computers, desktops, laptops, PDA's, storage devices, USB and flash memory devices, CDs, DVDs, floppy disks, iPods, tablets (iPad or other) MP3 players, cameras, webcams, all types of mobile phones, video and audio players/receivers, portable CD & DVD players, Gaming Consoles, and any other similar technologies as they come into use.

- **Organising Body**

Means the organiser of a netball Tournament, Competition, Activity or Event including but, not limited to Netball Victoria, Affiliated Associations and Affiliated Clubs.

- **Registered Member**

Means a person registered as a financial member of Netball Victoria who is therefore eligible to participate in a Tournament, Netball Competition, Activity or Event conducted by an Organising Body. A Registered Members is subject to the Netball Victoria Competition Regulations.

- **Affiliated Associations**

Means those entities which are affiliated members of Netball Victoria in accordance with Netball Victoria's constitution.

- **Affiliated Clubs**

Means a member of an Affiliated Associations, which may include teams, clubs or organisations (howsoever described)

- **Social Media**

Includes, but is not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Pintrest, My Space, Linked In, Tumblr, YouTube, Blogspot, Instagram, Flickr, Google Plus

2. Introduction

2.1. AVCNA with Netball Victoria has an obligation to maintain a safe physical and emotional environment for Officials, Associations, Affiliated Clubs, Umpires, Coaches, Registered Members and Organising Bodies. This responsibility is not solely confined to the netball court.

2.2. AVCNA and Netball Victoria acknowledges that the Internet and ICT devices/equipment can bring great benefit to all users and to the effective operations of AVCNA and Organising Bodies; however, Cyber safety issues related to the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have the potential to have a negative impact upon all concerned.

2.3. ACVNA and Netball Victoria places a high priority on the acceptable use of ICT devices/equipment which will benefit members: however, it recognises that the presence in the sporting arena of these technologies may also facilitate anti-social, inappropriate, abusive, threatening and/or illegal behaviour and activities. AVCNA & Netball Victoria seeks to maximise the benefit of these technologies while at the same time minimising the dangers and managing the risks.

2.4.

3. Responsibilities under this policy

AVCNA and Netball Victoria will implement and maintain rigorous and effective Cyber safety procedures which aim to maximise the benefits of the Internet and ICT and allow for the effective operations of AVCNA and Netball Victoria whilst minimising and managing any risks. Such practices will aim to maintain a cyber safe playing environment and address the needs of the Organising Bodies to receive education about the safe and responsible use of present and developing ICT.

4. What is Cyber bullying and Social Media

4.1. “Cyber bullying is a way of delivering covert psychological bullying. It uses information and communication, technologies to support deliberate, repeated and hostile behaviour, by an individual or group that is intended to harm others” (Belsey 2007)

- **Cyber bullying includes, but not limited to the following misuses of technology:**
 - Harassing, teasing, intimidating or threatening another Registered Member by sending or posting inappropriate and hurtful email messages, instant messages, text messages, phone messages, digital pictures or images, or web site postings, irrespective of whether the post or message could be viewed by the wider public: and
 - Sending, receiving and/or possessing naked or sexually explicit images of a Registered Member.

4.2. Social Media:

Refers to interaction in which people create, share, and/or exchange information and ideas in virtual communities and networks.

- **Social Media includes, but not limited to the following misuses of technology:**
 - Harassing, teasing, intimidating or threatening another Registered Member by sending or posting inappropriate and hurtful email messages, instant messages, text messages, phone messages, digital pictures or images, or web site postings, irrespective of whether the post or message could be viewed by the wider public: and
 - Sending, receiving and/or possessing naked or sexually explicit images of a Registered Member.

4.3. Registered Members should:

- Be aware that posting, communications and/or messages from their individual ICT account or mobile phone will remain the responsibility of the account owner unless the account owner can prove that their accounts had been accessed by an unauthorised person and by a method outside of their control;
- Be vigilant about the security of their accounts(s) and take all reasonable steps to protect themselves, for example, not sharing passwords or allowing others to log on to their individual accounts.
- Be aware that where a crime has been committed, they may be subject to a criminal investigation by Police over which the relevant Organising Body will have no control. This particularly applies to “sexting” where the registered Member is in possession of an inappropriate sexualised image of a person under the age of 18 years.

5. Breaches of the Policy

5.1. Responsibility

- AVCNA and Netball Victoria take its responsibility in providing robust policy, guidelines and education for its members in relation to what is deemed acceptable and appropriate online behaviours.

5.2. Affiliated Logos

- AVCNA motos, crest and /or logos must not be used in any way which would result in a negative impact for ACVNA or Netball Victoria, the Organising Body or its members.
- Any Sponsoring organisational motos, crest and /or logos must not be used in any way which would result in a negative impact either AVCNA or the Organising Body or its members.

5.3. Members

- Weather playing or non-playing, have a responsibility to ensure that all online communications are kept within AVCNA and Netball Victoria's expectations in relation to appropriate and respectful interactions with any Official, Affiliated Association, Affiliated Club, Umpire,. Coach, Registered member and/or Organising Body.

5.4. Breaches

- Registered Members of Netball Victoria and/or any Organising must not:
- Post or send inappropriate comments via the internet or ICT about any Official, Affiliated Association, Affiliated Club, Umpire, Coach, Registered Member and/or Organising Body; **where;**
 - If said in person during the conduct of a netball game, would result in disciplinary action being taken; or
 - Such posting would be in breach of the Netball Australia Protection Policy:
Sections 4 Code of Behaviour
Section 7 Policy Position Statements.

6. How to Deal with Breaches of this Policy

6.1. Registered Members

Should save and store the offending material on their computer, mobile phone or other device

6.2. Sexually Explicit

The police should be informed immediately by the member (or parent in the case of a minor), followed by a report to the relevant Organising Body.

6.3. All instances other than Sexually Explicit

All other instances of cyber bullying the recipient and/or other person having knowledge of such behaviour should print a copy of the material and immediately report the incident following the procedure listed below. The member affected should also report the abuse to the Internet site, if applicable, or the relevant telecommunications provider, in the case of mobile phone abuse.

7. Reporting Procedure

All reports of cyberbullying and other online or mobile telephone harassment will be investigated fully and may result in a notification to Police where an Organising Body is legally obliged to do so. A notification to Police by an individual will not override an Organising Body's responsibility to fully investigate a complaint, if one has been lodged with the Organising Body, and such investigation will be conducted alongside any Police investigation.

7.1. Registered Members

Any Registered Member may make a complaint relating to Cyber safety if the conduct the subject of the complaint occurred before, during or after a Tournament, Competition, Activity or Event arranged by AVCNA or Organising Body.

7.2. Who to Contact

- Under *Netball Victoria's Competition Regulations*, if the complaint occurred before, during or after a Tournament, Competition, Activity or Event arranged by AVCNA or Organising Body; or
- Under Netball Australia's Member Protection Policy or Netball Victoria's Member Protection Charter, if the behaviour the subject of the complaint is general in nature and/or ongoing and does not apply to a particular Tournament, Competition, Activity or Event arranged by an Organising Body.

7.3. Report Format

- A written report shall be lodged to the AVCNA Secretary, Head Coach or Coach Coordinator, as soon as possible on the day, or within 48 hours following the alleged offence;
- The report can be lodged by a playing or non-playing member or a parent (in the case of a minor);
- The offence may have occurred before, during or after the Tournament, Competition, Activity or Event arranged by AVCNA or Organising Body.

7.4. AVCNA Responsibilities of the Report

- The Secretary must advise AVCNA Board Members of report asap;
- If required; a hearing panel shall be appointed comprising of three people; the President, and either Vice President, Head Coach, Coach Coordinator or Umpires Coordinator, or the Permit and Protests Coordinator
- The convenor of the Hearing Panel shall be the President;
- Should any member of the Hearing Panel have a 'conflict of interest' in the incident, a member/s of AVCNA Board will be co-opted as a replacement panel member;
- The Secretary of AVCNA shall be responsible to:
 - Advise parties involved, in writing, of the hearing date, time and place;
 - Request confirmation from all parties that arrangements are suitable.
- All parties are to be interviewed separately
- All players can be accompanied
- All players under the age of 18, are required to be accompanied by a parent
- The hearing panel is obliged to provide written details of any penalty made

8. Penalties

8.1. Under Netball Victoria's Competition Regulations, a proven charge of an online breach of code of conduct, as per this policy, may attract one or more of the following penalties:

- A Warning;

- A monetary fine;
- Suspension;
- Disqualification; and/or
- Any other such penalty as the Hearing Officer or Hearing Panel considers appropriate.

9. Appeals

Any Registered Member may appeal a decision made under the Netball Victoria's Competition Regulations.