

## **GENEVA AREA CITY SCHOOLS SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT ATHLETES 2022/2023**

Playing and competing for Geneva Area City Schools is a privilege. Student athletes are held to the highest regard and are seen as a role model in the community. As leaders you have the responsibility to portray your team, your coaches, our school and yourselves in a positive manner at all times. Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites have increased in popularity globally, and are used by the majority of the student athletes in one form or another. This also includes your "private" accounts.

Student athletes should be aware that any third party- including the media, faculty, future employers and college officials, could easily access your profile and view all personal information. This includes all pictures, videos, comments and postings. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student-athletes and our school. This can also be detrimental to a student athlete's future options (i.e. college, profession). Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posts showing the personal use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.
- Photos, videos and comments that are of sexual nature. This includes links of websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
- Pictures, videos, comments or posting that condone drug related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any individual or entity ( examples: derogatory comments regarding another school; taunting comments aimed at a student athlete, coach, or team at another school and derogatory comments against race and/ or gender). No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities (examples: hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, dishonesty, underage drinking and illegal drug use.)

If you are ever in doubt of the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics as well as those of Geneva Area City Schools. Remember, always present a positive image and do not do anything to embarrass yourself, the team, your family or Geneva.

By signing below, you affirm that you understand both GENEVA AREA CITY SCHOOL SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINE FOR STUDENT ATHLETES and Board Policy 7540.03 - STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY as well as the requirements that you must adhere to as a GHS/GMS student athlete. Also, you affirm that failure to adhere to this policy and guidelines may result in consequences that include suspension from your athletic team and you may be subject to additional penalties imposed by the Geneva administration.

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Athlete Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_