

The digital world can be a great environment for the archery community to share knowledge, celebrate success and connect with others.

This policy provides a clear set of rules on what is acceptable behaviour and the consequences of breaking the rules when interacting with Archery GB online.

Purpose of the policy

This policy protects everyone within Archery GB, this includes the board, staff, volunteers, athletes, members, parents/carers, coaches, officials, clubs, counties, regions, home nations, contractors, and commissioned service providers. It ensures we operate in line with our values, Code of Conduct and within the law in terms of how we conduct ourselves in online spaces.

This policy is mandatory and should be read in conjunction with Archery GB's safeguarding policies and our [Code of Conduct](#).

The pace of change in technology means that it is not possible to identify a definitive list of all forms of social media and video conferencing platforms that this policy applies to, hence it is to be read as applying to all forms commonly understood to be social media, online messaging and video applications.

The rules

- Do not post, host or re-share, comments or images which are racist, sexist, homophobic, abusive, discriminatory, intimidating, threatening, bullying, harassing, sexualised or insulting
- Do not create a risk to a person's safety, or attempt to deceive an individual or Archery GB
- No spamming or over-posting
- No posts, comments or discussion attacking protected characteristics
- No personal or inappropriate posts or comments about board, staff, volunteers, athletes, members, parents/carers, coaches, officials, clubs, counties, regions, home nations, contractors, and commissioned service providers
- No gaming or banter – keep to archery related purposes only
- No posts, comments or discussion that may contravene Archery GB's Code of Conduct
- No sexting or sending of obscene images
- Archery GB clubs/organisations must obtain written parent/carer permission before direct messaging any under 18s via their social media platforms. A parent or carer should be copied in on all private messages and included in all messaging groups between the club and the young person
- Archery GB clubs/organisations must obtain written parent/carer permission before an image of an under 18 is used on an online platform
- Check the minimum age for users on social media platforms

General guidance

Do not say or do anything online if you wouldn't do it face-to-face.

Think carefully about what you post on public pages, remember comments can be shared or screenshot even if you later regret them and delete them.

Posts by users are reactively moderated by Archery GB as hosts of their pages.

Content posted by users does not represent the views of or constitute an endorsement by Archery GB.

What will happen if I break the rules?

Archery GB welcomes constructive criticism and feedback online but if your posts or comments break the rules, we will screenshot it and delete it.

If you repeatedly break the rules your posts/comments will again be screenshot and deleted by Archery GB's Communication Team and you may also be banned from posting to that page. We may report your comment to the social media platform, which could result in you being banned from the platform or having your account temporarily suspended. If we perceive your comment as a threat against an individual or group or we believe it breaks the law, we will report it to the police.

Archery GB's Conduct or Safeguarding Panel will have the right to investigate and take disciplinary action (in line with our disciplinary policy, regulations, and procedures) against any alleged breach of our Code of Conduct or our policies, rules, regulations, and procedures that may affect our reputation.

What should I do if I see a comment on an Archery GB social media account which I feel breaks the rules?

If you see or are aware of a comment or image that concerns you or makes you feel uncomfortable, take a screenshot and send a message to Archery GB's Communications Team at communications@archerygb.org. Once the Communications Team become aware of your message, they will review the comment and act accordingly.

If you are not happy with their response or you feel a faster response is needed comments can be reported direct to the social media platform.

If you wish to report a safeguarding or discrimination concern, you can use our online '[Report a Concern](#)' form where reports can also be made anonymously.

What should I do if I see a comment on my club/organisation's account which I feel breaks the rules?

If you see something you don't like on an Archery GB club or affiliated organisation's page, take a screenshot and report it to your club's Welfare Officer. You can also report it to the social media platform.

If you are unhappy with your club's response to your concern, please forward the screenshot to us via communications@archerygb.org.

Useful contacts

Serious concerns of abuse, bullying or discrimination should be reported to Archery GB's Safeguarding Team at safeguarding@archerygb.org.

- Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) – www.ceop.police.uk
- Childnet – www.childnet.com
- The UK Safer Internet Centre – www.saferinternet.org.uk