Amarillo Basketball Officials Association

Social Media Policy

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this social media policy is to provide guidelines to basketball officials on how to use social media in a professional manner and to avoid communication with coaches, players, and school personnel outside the scope of their official duties. This policy aims to uphold the integrity of the sport and protect officials from potential conflicts of interest or bias.

**Guidelines:**

1. *Professionalism:* Officials are always expected to maintain a professional demeanor while representing the sport of basketball. Any behavior that may bring disrepute to the sport or to the official’s position will not be tolerated.

2. *Communication:* Officials are prohibited from communicating with coaches, players, and school personnel via social media outside the scope of their official duties. Officials should not engage in any private conversations or accept friend requests from individuals associated with any team or school.

3. *Impartiality:* Officials are expected to remain impartial and avoid any actions or communications perceived as biased towards a particular team, player, or coach.

4. *Confidentiality:* Officials are not permitted to disclose any confidential information about the game or any specific incidents that may have occurred during the game on social media. Any such disclosures may lead to disciplinary action.

5. *Representation:* Officials should not represent themselves as speaking on behalf of any team, league, or organization unless authorized to do so. Any official statements or opinions must be clearly identified as their own and not reflect the views of any organization. Any authorization of representation of the Amarillo Basketball Officials Association must be approved by the President and/or Board.

**Consequences**:

Violations of this social media policy may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to warnings, reprimands, suspension, or termination of the official’s position. Any behavior that is deemed to be illegal or unethical may result in legal action.

**Conclusion:**

This social media policy is intended to guide basketball officials on the appropriate use of social media and to avoid communication with coaches, players and school personnel outside the scope of their official duties. Officials are expected to maintain professionalism, impartiality, and confidentiality while representing the sport of basketball.