



## Front Range Barracuda Social Media Policy

**Front Range Barracudas (Cuda)** recognizes the prevalence of social media in today's world. The Board has established a policy for acceptable use of social media by our Members. This policy is essential for Cudas to provide a safe and positive environment for all its athletes, officials, parents, and coaches.

### **ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY:**

Each Cuda Member must exhibit ethical and responsible conduct in all online communications and activities and respect other Members and the privacy of all other Cuda and USA Swimming athletes, coaches, officials, and parents. The Cuda board will monitor the social media platforms. Cuda prohibits cyberbullying or cyberstalking of any athlete, coach, or official by any means or method, including but not limited to the use of Facebook, Instant Messaging, Twitter, and SnapChat (all social media platforms). Cyberbullying and Cyberstalking are unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

### **CYBERBULLYING:**

Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology of any kind. Cyberbullying involves the use of electronic information and communication technologies to support deliberate or repeated harassment, intimidation and/or hostile behavior by an individual or group through personal attacks or other means that harms others, whether intentional or not. Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages, emails, tweets, or posts including rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

### **CYBERSTALKING:**

Cyberstalking involves the use of electronic information and communication technologies to communicate words, images, or language directed at or about a specific person, causing substantial emotional distress to that person. Harassing, intimidating, and hostile mean any electronic communication that is perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic including race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, physical attributes, socioeconomic status, physical or mental ability or disability or any other characteristic related to athletic performance that a reasonable person should know under the any of these circumstances:

1. Will have the effect of harming another member or has the effect of substantially interfering with another athlete's performance or opportunities.

2. Has the effect of having a negative impact on another member's emotional or psychological well-being.
3. Has the effect of insulting or demeaning another member to cause disruption in or substantial interference with practice, any swim meet, or any other Cuda related activity.
4. Has the effect of creating a hostile environment for any member at any USA Swimming activity or swim meet.
5. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the training process or the orderly operation of any Cuda practice, workout, or other events or swim meets of any other club or high school.

**REPORTING:**

If cyberbullying or cyberstalking does occur, the incident will be dealt with promptly.

Any member who is being bullied or stalked or is aware of any such bullying or stalking occurring is asked to talk to his or her parents or a Cuda coach. When a member talks to his or her parents or a coach, the member should also show to the parents or the coach the electronic communication that constitutes the incident.

Safeguarding the electronic communication as evidence of the bullying or stalking will help the Cuda coach and board conduct its investigation of any incident. While there is no time limit for reporting bullying incidents, reporting quickly gives the Club an opportunity to address the situation immediately and stop the bullying. Upon receiving a report of cyberbullying or cyberstalking, the Head Coach will commence an investigation of the incident. The results of the investigation may include but are not limited to, written warning, immediate temporary suspension from the Club, or immediate permanent expulsion from the Club per the Code of Conduct.

Cuda takes cyberbullying and cyberstalking seriously and all athletes and parents can be assured that Cuda will support them when an incident is reported. Any type of bullying and stalking is counterproductive to the team atmosphere and team spirit Cuda wants to maintain and foster on a daily basis. Cuda is committed to providing a caring and supportive environment for all of our athletes.

**ACCEPTABLE COMMUNICATION POLICY:**

See CUDA Electronic Communication Policy

**TEXTING AND EMAIL:**

See CUDA Electronic Communication Policy

**REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE PHOTOGRAPHY:**

See CUDA Photography Policy.

**CUDA MEMBER (PARENT/GUARDIAN) CODE OF CONDUCT:**

This policy and the applicable Codes of Conduct should guide all Social Media behavior. See Cuda Member (Parent/Guardian) Code of Conduct.