



## PICKERING FISHERY ASSOCIATION

### COMMUNICATION POLICY

The PFA seeks to ensure that all communication clearly represents the values and interests of the Association and the wider membership.

For the purposes of this Policy, communication is whether given verbally or by letter, note, email, a Web site or blog, social media including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Pinterest or any other platform where notices, opinions, photos/videos and comments can be posted.

**NOTE: Any communication involving children will be directed through their parents.**

Since 1892 the PFA has been a fishing club dedicated to conserving it's waters. The Membership will naturally hold a variety of different interests in terms of the fishing they enjoy, the style of fishing they prefer, the fish they wish to catch and to what degree they wish to be involved.

As such the PFA membership will often hold varied opinions and views. These must be respected, and open discussion is to be encouraged in a professional and polite manner

Members must ensure that any communication is respectful and considerate. Communications in all it's forms must avoid bullying or comment likely to cause hurt or embarrassment.

#### Website

- Our website will include information such as policies, club rules and by-laws.
- We will review the site periodically to update it and alter it as necessary.
- Any queries a Member might have should be addressed to the Committee via [hon.sec@pickeringfishery.co.uk](mailto:hon.sec@pickeringfishery.co.uk) for subsequent review

#### E-Mail

The preferred means of communicating to members is by E. Mail which will be used when communicating to members unless they do not have an E-Mail address.

Members are responsible for ensuring that their Email address is passed to the Secretary or Membership Admin.

#### Social media websites

- Communications, especially those on social media (written, photos or videos) should be family-friendly and feature positive club news and events.
- Private posts on personal blogs, third party blogs or groups etc should not compromise the PFA and or it's aims
- Shared articles can help to make the pages read by a wider audience. They should be fact checked before sharing and be relevant to the interests of the Membership.
- No personal information about our members will be disclosed to third parties.
- Communications should not be misleading, false or likely to injure a person's reputation.
- Members are discouraged from making any communication that might bring the PFA into disrepute.
- Abusive, discriminatory, intimidating, or offensive statements will be removed and those responsible may be blocked from the site and disciplinary action may be considered by the committee.

### **What we ask you to do**

We expect our members to comply with this Policy and conduct themselves appropriately when expressing a view or opinion.

Particularly when sharing information with other members or posting material on public websites, groups etc connected to the club.

Members are also expected not to use the PFA to promote products for 3<sup>rd</sup> Parties without the express written consent from the Committee.

### **Non-compliance**

Members may face disciplinary action for any communication that harass, offend, intimidate, or humiliate another member or could bring the PFA into disrepute.