

Judo Ontario Social Media Policy

Approval Authority	Board of Directors	June 25 th , 2023
Next Review		2024



POLICY STATEMENT

- Judo Ontario (JO) acknowledges that social media is an ideal platform for the Judo community to connect with peers, share thoughts and ideas, discuss topical issues, and ask questions. JO in no way wishes to hinder free speech or prevent any individual from expressing and sharing their thoughts and opinions; however, there are some situations where misleading, defamatory, disparaging, or unfair comments are posted, whether intentionally or inadvertently – and the consequences of these types of posts have the potential to be far-reaching and severe.
- 2. The purpose of the JO Social Media Policy is to protect JO and all its members, athletes, staff, board of directors, and volunteers against inaccurate, defamatory, derogatory, and/or otherwise inappropriate online statements that have the potential to inflict severe damage to JO as an organization, or to any individual associated with JO on a personal level.
- 3. JO cautions Participants that any social media conduct falling short of the standard of behaviour required by this Policy may be subject to a complaint and disciplinary action under JO's Disputes, Appeals and Discipline Policy.

APPLICATION

- 4. JO recognizes that social media provides a unique platform for engaging and interactive discussions that allow the Judo community to connect and share information. JO's members, athletes, staff, board of directors, and volunteers use of social media can have the potential to pose risks to JO's confidential and/or propriety information, its reputation, and may jeopardize JO's compliance with its legal obligations.
- 5. Failure to comply with JO's Social Media Policy may result in JO taking disciplinary action against any members, athletes, staff, board of directors, and volunteers in accordance with this policy. Breach of this policy may also result in JO bringing civil and/or criminal proceedings against members, athletes, staff and volunteers, where applicable.
- 6. JO reserves the right to request any members, athletes, staff, board of directors, and volunteers to remove postings, comments or any other social media submissions deemed to constitute a breach of this policy. Failure to comply with JO's request for removal may result in disciplinary action.
- 7. Participants acknowledge that their social media activity may be viewed by anyone, including but not limited to JO, members, sponsors and the general public.

RESPONSIBLITIES

- 8. Through use of social media, members, athletes, staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers must:
 - Refrain from posting racist, discriminatory, inflammatory, defamatory, derogatory, abusive, threatening or obscene statements or material about others, including without limitation:
 i) JO
 - ii) Members, athletes, staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers



iii) JO sponsors and partners

- Not post any statements that have the potential to directly or indirectly damage JO's name, brand or reputation.
- Clearly express in posts that disclose their affiliation with JO that they are speaking on their own behalf and their views do not represent those of JO.
- Not use JO trademarks, logos, brand names, slogans or any confidential or propriety information without obtaining prior written consent from JO.
- Not to post on behalf of JO without obtaining prior written approval.
- 9. JO will fully comply with all:
 - Laws;
 - Requests from governmental or other regulatory authorities; or
 - Orders from a court or other legitimate authority or jurisdiction.

GUIDELINES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA BEST PRACTICES

DO

- Take advantage of social media to provide updates and connect with a broad audience.
- Review your privacy settings to gain a full understanding of who has access to view your accounts.
- Keep in mind that the slightest indiscretion, bizarre comment or silliest joke has the potential to spark controversy and receive negative publicity.
- Ask yourself before every post, "Would I feel comfortable saying this on live television?" If you have any doubt, don't post it.
- Tag Judo Ontario to share updates about ongoing events, upcoming events, past events, and highlight reels to help promote good Judo experiences.
- Share posts made by other users on User-Generated Content channels with proper accreditation by way of tagging or mentions for the original creator.

DON'T

- Use social media to air a personal grievance with an individual or organization. Contact the individual directly to discuss your concern, or contact JO by email at: info@judoontario.ca
- Make misleading comments that position an opinion as fact.
- Post unverified or uninformed comments that have the potential to be damaging or defamatory.
- Post any photos, videos, screenshots, screen recordings, and text material that you have not
 personally captured, created, or developed unless you have express copyright permission from the
 creator of the content.
- Post or share sensitive information about an individual or organization before it has been publicly released by the official source.