

Vanderbilt University Student Athletics Social Networking Website Policy

As members of Vanderbilt University and the Student Athletics Department, student athletes are representatives of the institution, and as varsity athletes are subject to public scrutiny. While social networking websites are a great way to communicate, express yourself and connect with others, it is recommended that you become sensitive to the information and pictures you post (or others post about you), as they may lead to implications that adversely impact your personal safety, preservation of personal and institutional character, NCAA & SEC compliance rules, university policy and career advancement.

Student athletes at Vanderbilt will be held responsible for any actions that are deemed inappropriate, and that compromise the integrity of the university and/or their sport as well as any behaviors that violate federal and state laws, NCAA or SEC regulations, Vanderbilt University policies, Student Athletics Department standards and philosophy, or team rules. Any such actions could result in discipline, team suspension, termination from the varsity team, and reduction or non-renewal of annual athletic scholarship.

Examples of inappropriate or offensive behaviors posted social networking websites may include depictions or presentations of the following:

- Hazing
- Use of alcohol and drugs
- Use of derogatory or offensive language
- Lewd or lascivious behavior
- Access to valuable team information that promotes sports gambling
- Communicating with sports agents (Contact Compliance Director for guidance on appropriate communication with sports agents.)

Think about your safety. Take time to explore the privacy settings on the various social networking websites. Please take consideration when posting information about course schedules, personal contacts, away messages, etc., as other internet users could have access to your daily patterns and make you more vulnerable to crime. Your safety is of the utmost importance. Please use common sense when publishing anything on the Internet or visiting websites.