

# TRINITY

## OXFORD

### MOBILE PHONE POLICY

TRINITY NETBALL CLUB recognises its responsibility to ensure that all reasonable precautions are taken to provide and maintain training and match day conditions which are safe for all players in terms of mobile phone use.

As well as being carried by most people to keep in touch with their family and friends, mobile phones have become an indispensable tool for people. Modern smartphones effectively operate as small tablet computers. In addition to making and receiving phone calls they can be used to send and receive text messages and emails, compose documents, search the internet, and take photographs and video.

A range of applications are also available which can greatly expand the utility of the smartphone. For example, security applications can help in keeping people who travel to training, matches or tournaments safe, enabling them to log their movements and keeping them in touch with their base.

However, while mobile phones have seen a huge increase in domestic use, they have also introduced risks of their own. Risks include:

- ready accessibility to high-quality cameras — which in a safeguarding context in netball means they can potentially be used to take and share inappropriate images without consent
- distraction from training — players spending time on their phones or on social media rather than training
- the inappropriate use of the phone within training, match days and tournaments
- breaching confidentiality and data protection laws

Trinity Netball maintains the following policies regarding mobile phone use. It makes a distinction between phones which the club uses for contacting parents for emergencies and the use of personal phones during training, match and tournament hours.

#### **Note:**

It is a club decision to not allow personal use of any mobile phone whilst training and matches are taking place without approval from the Coaching team.

#### **Personal phones**

Players are permitted to bring their own mobile phones to training, matches and tournaments, however the following rules must be followed.

- Personal phones should not be used for making calls, texting, surfing the internet, social networking or playing games during training, matches or tournament hours. They should be switched to silent and secured in the player's bag. Personal phones should not be carried on the player or taken into bathrooms.
- If a player needs to make or take a call of a personal nature during training, matches or tournament hours, they should seek permission from the Coaching team and do so in a quiet area to avoid disturbing other players.
- Players must not use social networking sites such as Facebook, TikTok, Instagram on their personal phones whilst at training, matches or tournaments. When they do use such sites outside of training, matches or tournaments, they should refrain from sharing photos without consent of all the participants within that photo, specifically if they can be seen to be another Trinity player.

The Coaching team will monitor personal phone use. Breach of the rules set out above will lead to action by the committee and Safeguarding Lead.

Date Reviewed: 17.10.2022