



Branston Pickleball Club Communication Policy

Version 1.0

1. POLICY PURPOSE

In accordance with the Constitution, the Club is committed to promoting Pickleball and the Club to its local community and members, as well as creating and maintaining a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all members and participants to enjoy Pickleball.

Electronic communication is essential for sharing club news and information with our members and promoting the Branston Pickleball Club and Pickleball in general more widely in Burton on Trent and the surrounding area. Our communication will be timely, appropriate and related to club business.

2. GENERAL COMMUNICATION PRINCIPLES

- We use a range of electronic tools to communicate with our Members. Our communication will protect Members' privacy, maintain clear boundaries, ensure that bullying and harassment does not occur, and appropriate language is used.
- The Membership officer is accountable for and has control over material published on our Club's website and any related discussion groups or social media websites, such as Facebook, Instagram etc.
- We will periodically ask for feedback from Members on the use of the website and/or social media to improve the information available and to better support the purpose of the Club
- Electronic communication: •
 - should be restricted to club matters; •
 - must not offend, intimidate, humiliate or bully another person; •
 - must not be misleading, false or injure the reputation of another person; •
 - should respect and maintain the privacy of members; and •
 - must not bring the Club into disrepute.



3. PHOTOGRAPHY

- The club will follow safe practices regarding online communication, social media, and taking photos/videos of participants.
- The club will assume that photos/videos taken 'directly' (face to face) of groups of Club members will be acceptable for publication. Any photos of individual members will require permission of the member.
- Any member who does not want to be included in a group photo should withdraw from the scene.
- The photographer must inform Club members where they intend to take 'indirectly' (not face to face) of any photo/video of pickleball action. Where a Club member does not wish to be recorded or photographed, then they must notify the photographer and the photographer must avoid their inclusion.
- For photography of under 18's (junior members), as part of our safeguarding responsibilities:
 - Consent must be obtained from a parent or guardian and the junior member before photographs or videos of under-18s are taken.
 - If a junior member does not wish to be included in a group photo, then they withdraw from the scene. Where the junior member is included in a group photo (e.g. session photo from a League fixture) and the parent, guardian or junior member wishes for them to be removed, then the parent & guardian must inform the photographer for their face/body to be blurred prior to publication.

4. WEBSITE

- Our website will include current information on competitions, social events, the Management Committee, Club policies, the Club Constitution and wider information about Pickleball in the UK and the development of Pickleball in Burton.

5. SPOND

- Spond is the Club's preferred mobile application solution for organising Club events, social groups and group activities.
- The Pickleball Officer is responsible for creating and publishing club playing events on Spond.
- Spond is an independently managed application and the Bristol Pickleball Club and its Officers and Members do not have any management control over the application. Members are required to provide some personal information in order to log into and use Spond. This information is not controlled by the Branston Pickleball Club or its Officers.



6. SOCIAL MEDIA

- The promotion of Branston Pickleball Club on social media sites is encouraged by Management, members and players. All will follow these guidelines when using such sites:
 - Treat all social media postings, blogs, status updates and tweets as 'public comment'.
 - Postings (written, photos or videos) will be family-friendly and feature positive Club news and events.
 - No personal information about our Members will be disclosed.
 - No statements will be made that are misleading, false, hurtful or likely to injure a person's reputation.
 - No statements will be made that might bring our Club into disrepute.
 - Abusive, discriminatory, intimidating or offensive statements will not be tolerated.

7. NON-COMPLIANCE

- Members and players not following these guidelines will be asked to remove offending communications & posts and may be subject to proceedings under the Branston Pickleball Club's Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy.
 - Cyber bullying (e.g. bullying that is carried out through an internet service such as email, a chat room, discussion group, instant messaging or website) is a criminal offence that can be reported to the Police.
 - In addition, Members who publish false or misleading comments about another person in the public domain (e.g., Facebook, YouTube or Twitter) may be liable for defamation.
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Appendix 1 - Version control and review cycle

Version	Date reviewed by MC	Formal review date.
0.1	N/A	
0.2	N/A	
0.3	Version for review by MC	
1.0	Issued 04/04/26	Dec 2026