

Garioch Road and Gravel



Communications Policy

Purpose

Communication is key to success in a sports club and Garioch Road and Gravel do not underestimate this. We use a range of platforms to communicate with Riders. This policy is to ensure that all oral and written communications between participants within the Club and between the Club and external parties are transmitted efficiently; are clear, courteous and constructive; and are dealt with in a prompt and professional manner.

Scope

This policy applies to all Committee Members, Ride Leaders, Riders and Volunteers.

Verbal communications

- ✓ Ride Leaders, Riders, and Volunteers are each responsible for creating an environment where matters can be raised openly and resolved between them in an amicable fashion.
- ✓ If a Ride Leader or volunteer has an issue with a rider, they must approach that rider and attempt to discuss the matter in a sensitive, objective and professional manner.
- ✓ If a rider has an issue with a Ride Leader, they must approach the Ride Leader directly and attempt to discuss the matter in a sensitive, objective and professional manner.

Electronic communications

The Club uses a range of platforms to communicate with our members. Our communication will protect members' privacy, maintain clear boundaries and ensure that bullying and harassment does not occur.

Our Communications and PR Officer has accountability for and control over material published on our club's website and any related discussion groups or social media websites, such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Website

- ✓ Our website will include general information about The Club, and current information on committees, policies, constitution etc.
- ✓ No offensive content or photos will be published.
- ✓ We will seek feedback from members to improve the information available on the site.

SMS and Email

Committee Members and Ride Leaders may use Text and Email to provide information about competition, training, club-sanctioned social events and other club business, however:

- ✓ Text messages should be short and about club matters.
- ✓ Email communication will be used when more information is required.

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Social Media and Spond

- ✓ We treat all social media postings, Spond 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 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. Offending posts will be removed and those responsible will be blocked from the site.

What we ask you to do

We expect our members to conduct themselves appropriately when using electronic communication to share information with other members or posting material on public websites connected to 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.
- ✓ Must not bring the club into disrepute.

Non-compliance

Members may face disciplinary action for sending inappropriate electronic communication or posting online content or comments that harass, offend, intimidate or humiliate another member, as outlined in our member protection policy or code of conduct.

Under certain circumstances, 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.

For more information on how we use personal data, please refer to our Data Use Policy.

Adopted 24 July 2025

Due for review

24 July 2029