

Please use your words wisely when you post on your Facebook or other Social Media!

Negative comments used on Facebook or any social media against other Conferences, Associations, Teams, Cheer Squads, Coaches or even parents, should not be tolerated by anyone. Comments can be hurtful and a comment against children by adults is unacceptable. Before you post something negative on any social media outlet, think about it, would you want your child, team, coach or Association talked about like some of the posts we see on different pages.

“Watch your thoughts for they become words. Choose your words, for they become actions. Understand your actions, for they become habits. Study your habits, for they will become your character. Develop your character for it becomes your destiny.” –Unknown

A couple of facts about Facebook:

Did you know that what you say on [Facebook](#) can be used against you [in a court of law](#)? If you're sharing something with your friends, you may as well be sharing directly with the judge and jury: A recent ruling in a U.S. federal court says that if you post something on Facebook, your friend can share that information with the police — it's not a violation of your privacy.

When you say something publicly on Facebook, you're often sharing a thought with hundreds, maybe even thousands of people. There's not much that's private about that.

Did you know that AYF/AYF has rules about starting rumors? Read your Rule Books.

Section 19 #18

The act of spreading rumors, which is general talk not based on fact, will not be tolerated in American Youth Football/American Youth Cheer. It not only hurts your credibility, but affects your team/squad/association, the other team/squad/association or conference that may become involved in the rumor. In the case of cheating or rules violations, these must be reported in writing and given to the Association or Conference Official for review.

10 Tips To Protect Your Kids On Facebook

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Facebook is a great place to re-unite with old friends, make business connections, drive traffic, expand spiritual influence and post pics from 82 while you skated to “Another One Bites the Dust”. Facebook can also be a place of lust, secrecy and it can be a dangerous place for kids to spend their time.

FACEBOOK DANGERS FOR CHILDREN:

- **Identity Theft:** Scammers are lurking behind the pages to steal your kids personal information.
- **Blemished Reputation:** “A recent Career-BUILDER survey found that 45% of employers use sites like Facebook to research candidates; 35% found content that led them to reject a prospect.”
- **Outrageous Spending:** Kids are spending mom & dad’s cash on credits and Facebook games. The charges typically show up on mobile phone accounts. (be sure to double check your bill)
- **Sexual Content:** A 12 year old recently received a “how are you in bed” quiz on their wall.
- **Predator Activity:** Predators pose as children on Facebook with the goal of connecting and harming children. Peter Champman used Facebook as a tool to meet, rape and kill 17 year old Ashleigh Hall. You can read the story [HERE](#).
- **Addiction:** Facebook can become addicting and zap all your kiddos time.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR KIDS ON FACEBOOK:

- **Honest Conversation:** Sit down with your kids and share with them the dangers Facebook presents. Don't scare them, just make them aware of the risks.
- **Form Rules:** I encourage all parents to agree upon specific rules when it comes to Facebook, write down the rules so there are no questions asked.
- **Watch Closely:** As your children are creating their profile, watch closely and make sure there is no personal information shared.
- **Use Privacy Links:** Set your kids profile to private, this means that only approved friends can view your child's information. Check out this detailed explanation on how to set up a private profile, [READ HERE](#).
- **Set Time Boundaries:** Last week I did a post, [11 SIGNS MOM & DAD ARE ADDICTED TO FACEBOOK](#). Your kids can be addicted too, monitor their time.
- **Be Their Friend:** Create your own profile and become your kid's friend.
- **Monitor Behavior:** Regularly check out the posts and pics associated with your kids' profile.
- **Just Say NO:** Many requests and game invites contain malware that will infiltrate your computer system.
- **Flag The Bully:** If your child is being bullied, Facebook makes it easy to report the issue. Read [HERE](#) for more information.
- **PcPandora:** You can record every move made on your kids computer, read more [HERE](#).