



## Social Media & Cyber Bullying

On the topic of social media and cyber bullying, the Standing Rules of the Chihuahua Club of America (CCA) state: No member shall use social media or any other public forum to make derogatory comments – direct or implied – about another member, the Club, the Board of Directors or the AKC. Such conduct is incompatible with continued membership and may lead to the expulsion of the member whose conduct is at issue. This will become effective immediately and is also applicable to all member clubs. (SR3 10/20) (Rev Mar25)

As we navigate the increasingly digital world, the CCA Board of Directors would like to remind all members of the lasting impact of social media. What we share online—whether personal thoughts or other statements—can remain accessible long after it's been deleted or hidden behind privacy settings.

More importantly, what we choose to share online reflects not only on us as individuals, but also on the clubs and organizations with which we are affiliated—including the CCA. As proud members of this community, we encourage each member to consider how online presence reflects on both personal values and those of our organization. Posts may be perceived as representing the views of affiliates, regardless of the intention.

Accordingly, we encourage thoughtful engagement and responsible posting that aligns with the [AKC Code of Sportsmanship](#) and the [Chihuahua Club of America Code of Ethics](#). The AKC encourages us to practice good sportsmanship not only at dog shows, but online as well. Further, one of the promises members make in the Code of Ethics is, “I pledge – whether at home, traveling, at shows or motels – that I will treat all present – including competitors, judges, officials, and spectators – ***with respect and courtesy***. This includes respect for show sites, national convention and overflow facilities, ***internet forums, lists, and other social media***, as well as all other aspects of responsible dog ownership.”

Bullying of any kind isn't acceptable in the dog world and shouldn't be tolerated online. Always ask yourself whether what you are posting is something you would say in front of the public, an AKC rep, or another official at a dog show. There is no place for bullying others over social media or otherwise.

When you are faced with a disagreement or conflict with another, we encourage you to take a moment to carefully consider what you are about to post. It's up to each one of us to understand and abide by good social media etiquette and to remember that our public posts may be a potential newcomer's first view of dog show culture.

Our mission and passion of preserving the health, standard and welfare of the Chihuahua breed is tantamount. Let's do it with respect.