***Social Media Policy: Cuchulainn CC V1.0 , Nov 6th, 2015***

*The Club recognises the value and benefits Social Media has brought to members of our club.*

*The growth and popularity of social media sites and mobile technology for many members is of great benefit in helping them plan their weekend rides, getting racing event updates, promoting club activities and hearing about relevant events ongoing in other clubs. It can also be a great way to have some banter after a great days cycling or an exciting finish to a race and interactions are generally very entertaining, informative and shows us to be a sociable bunch which is reflective of what makes our club unique.*

*However, the nature of social media and it’s capabilities have the ability to broadcast opinions and commentary instantaneously – as such we need to establish some ground rules as a policy in the interest of ensuring the social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter or any emerging technologies) are used appropriately. The following policy therefore applies to all contributors and relates to all social media platforms and particularly our Facebook pages which have established groups in racing and leisure.*

*Members or (non-members contributing to a non closed group) are asked* ***NOT*** *to post any comments or content (photos/videos) which is:*

1. *Threatening, bullying, harassing, abusive, inciting violence or otherwise inflammatory to others*
2. *Discriminatory, defamatory, racist, sexually explicit, vulgar, or offensive to others*
3. *Confidential to the Club and contains information pertaining to internal club matters including but not limited to financial reporting, discussions from internal meetings, reports etc..*
4. *Promotional, commercial or other material which are clearly unrelated to cycling interests, including links to third parties or their products or services*
5. *False, fraudulent, or deliberately misleading information*
6. *Spam*
7. *Off topic posts initiated or brought into existing threads*
8. *May bring the club or its members and activities in to disrepute.*

*Any posts which appear to fall into any of the above categories or which are believed otherwise not in accordance with the rationale of our social media policy, may be deleted without prior notification and may result in the person being blocked from accessing our social media pages in the future.*

*Persistent misuse or a very serious breach of the policy will be reviewed by representatives of the Club Committee and they will reserve the right in these instances to censure or revoke membership of the Club pending a review and investigation of all the related circumstances.*

*Applying common sense should always prevail when posting any comment or content especially given the instantaneous nature of social media. Taking personal responsibility before posting is important and we would ask everyone to take just a moment before they make a post. It is easy to make an inadvertent remark which was not intended to be malicious or offensive but which does cause offence. When a user realizes a post made is likely to cause an offence or is inappropriate, they are requested to take responsibility and remove their comment and/or apologize as appropriate.*

*Finally, the nature of social media and volume of information exchanged at any one-time makes it very difficult to monitor all posts on a continuous basis (and is not a very good use of our resources). Consequently, we hope the policy as out lined above will result in minimizing issues and introduce a level of ‘self policing’. Any members who feel their early intervention on a thread may help diffuse situations before ‘things go too far’ are encouraged to help out if appropriate.*

*We ultimately want our policy to work based on; mutual respect/courtesy for each other and being informed on acceptable behavior in the cyber world. Happy posting!!!*