



Social Media Terms of Use

www.wsgc.wa.gov

Please know that all messages sent to, or received by, the Washington State Gambling Commission (WSGC) officials and employees in connection with official WSGC business are public records subject to disclosure under the [Washington State Public Records Act \(RCW 42.56\)](#). By posting or commenting on any social media platform used by WSGC, you participate by your own choice, taking personal responsibility for your comments, your username and any information you provide therein. You further agree to the following terms of use:

WSGC maintains a social media program for the purpose of engaging and interacting with our community, providing relevant and timely news, information and events, distribution of crime prevention and public safety tips, and for those people having an interest in WSGC business.

Limited Public Forum

All social media platforms used by WSGC are designated as Limited Public Forums. WSGC welcomes a person's right to express his/her opinion and encourages posters to keep comments relevant to the topic in question. Posting of any content on any social media platform used by WSGC, by any visitor, follower, subscriber or fan, constitutes acceptance of the terms of use described here in this policy.

For purposes of this policy, a social media platform is the website or app offered to the public to provide audio, video, still-photo or written communication between other members of the public and/or representatives of certain groups, businesses, organizations or departments. Examples of social media platforms include Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter), YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, website blogs with commenting capabilities, and forums and emergency notification services.

The definition of content as used in this policy refers to any written copy, photos, graphics, videos, live-video streams, comments or any form of communicative content exchanged between parties.

Emergency or Non-emergency Requests for Assistance

The posting of requests for law enforcement assistance, regardless if it is of an emergency or non-emergency nature, is discouraged and will not guarantee a response by WSGC or any emergency service provider. In case of an emergency, or if law enforcement assistance is needed, please dial 911. If you wish to report a crime or rule violation related to gambling, please call 360-486-3440. You may remain anonymous if you wish.

In the event you post information related to a crime, you may be placing yourself in a position of becoming a witness and subject to being subpoenaed into court.

Endorsements

“Friending” or “Liking” WSGC, or an officer or employee of the WSGC, does not indicate an endorsement of that person’s actions or comments.

A comment posted by a member of the public on any WSGC social media site is the opinion of the commentator or poster only, and publication of a comment does not imply endorsement of, or agreement by, WSGC, nor do such comments necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of WSGC.

Moderation of Content

When applicable, WSGC uses platform provided content moderation/filtering options to limit foul or obscene content. WSGC does actively monitor the social media platforms it uses, and will remove inappropriate content as defined below, without prior notice, and as soon as possible. WSGC shall reserve the right to remove and/or block anyone who posts inappropriate material as determined by WSGC. This material may include, but is not limited to:

1. Comments not related to the original topic, including random or unintelligible comments;
2. Profane, obscene, or pornographic content and/or language;
3. Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, or national origin;
4. Defamatory or personal attacks;
5. Threats to any person or organization;
6. Comments in support of, or in opposition to, any political campaigns or ballot measures;
7. Solicitation of commerce, including but not limited to advertising of any business or product for sale. This includes other online pages or organizations asking for donations;
8. Conduct in violation of any federal, state or local law;
9. Encouragement of illegal activity;
10. Information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems;
11. Content that violates a legal ownership interest, such as a copyright, of any party;
12. Harassment or content which constitutes and/or facilitates stalking;
13. Content which violates the right to privacy;
14. Encouragement of violence;
15. Repetitive content. Repeated posting of identical or very similar content in a counter-productive manner;
16. Comments which may reasonably interfere with, inhibit, or compromise law enforcement investigations, tactics, responses to incidents, or the safety of agents, officers or staff.
17. Posts or comments which contain any external links.

WSGC does not allow posting of photos or videos by anyone other than members of WSGC.

Denial of Access

WSGC reserves the right to deny access to any WSGC social media sites for any individual, who violates WSGC’s Social Media Terms of Use, at any time and without prior notice.

If you wish to contest the removal or hiding of your content, or your denial of access ("banned") from our social media platforms, you may do so by contacting us at 360-486-3440 and requesting to speak to our public information officer.

Facebook's Community of Standards

All comments posted to WSGC's Facebook page are bound by Facebook's Community Standards, located at <http://www.facebook.com/communitystandards>, and WSGC reserves the right to report any violation of Facebook's Community Standards to Facebook with the intent of Facebook taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.

X (formerly known as Twitter) Rules

When applicable, WSGC reserves the right to report any violation of X (formerly known as Twitter) Rules, located at <https://support.twitter.com/articles/18311> with the intent of X taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.

YouTube Community Guidelines

When applicable, WSGC reserves the right to report any violation of the YouTube Community Guidelines, located at <http://www.youtube.com/yt/policyandsafety/communityguidelines.html> with the intent of YouTube taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.

Instagram Community Guidelines

When applicable, WSGC reserves the right to report any violation of the Instagram Community Guidelines, located at <https://help.instagram.com/477434105621119/> with the intent of Instagram taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.

LinkedIn User Agreement

When applicable, WSGC reserves the right to report any violation of the LinkedIn User Agreement, located at <https://www.linkedin.com/legal/user-agreement> with the intent of LinkedIn taking appropriate and reasonable responsive action.