



2024 Australian Paralympic Team Policies

Family Communication and Use of Personal Mobile Phones

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a) Policy purpose

To encourage Team Members to be responsible for their personal communication needs.

b) Policy statement & implementation procedures

Team Members are to exercise common sense and courtesy regarding the use of mobile phones and personal hand-held devices. In general, mobile phones should be switched on silent while in official functions, meetings or competition, as well as between 10pm and 7am or when team mates are resting. Considerate use outside these hours may be appropriate, for example after a late match, on completion of competition or to meet a media commitment. The needs of roommates must be considered. It is the responsibility of individual Team Members to follow head coach and Team management policy regarding personal communications.

The responsibility for family communication lies with individual Team Members. Family members and friends should be advised that the first point of contact should always be the mobile number of the individual Team Member but that, in cases requiring a degree of urgency, it is possible to call the Team Headquarters office or staff directly. (Please refer to the Team contacts list, which is provided upon arrival at your games accommodation)

All Team Members should discuss communication boundaries with family and friends and come to agreement about what types and timing of communication is appropriate including the communication of distressing news (for example the communication of a family member death delayed until after competition completion rather than instantaneous communication). Any family arrangements are to be advised to the Team Manager prior to the Team entering the Paralympic Village. Team Members are reminded that their first aim should be to compete at their best and this may involve limiting communication at times. The Team Manager shall record these arrangements and, if required, pass these on to the Chef de Mission. The Chef de Mission shall ensure that the Team Member's wishes are carried out in the event distressing news is received.

Talking on mobile phones if marching in Opening and Closing ceremonies will be restricted, as directed by the Chef de Mission.

c) Applicability

This policy applies to all Team Members.

d) Policy officer/contact

This policy is managed by the Chef de Mission.

e) Authority

This policy is authorised by the PA Board for immediate implementation.

f) Related policies

N/A

g) References

Communication of Distressing News Flowchart

