

Australian Society of Rheology (ASR) - Social Media Policy

The below guidelines summarise our ethical policies and must be adhered to when participating in ANY online conversations regarding anything ASR related.

1. Respect and humility in all communication

- People will form a view about the ASR based on how members behave on all forms of social media.
- Treat the ASR, past and present members, sponsors, stakeholders and yourself with respect.
- Do not post materials or comments that may be seen as offensive, demeaning, inappropriate, threatening, or abusive.
- Withdraw from discussions that go off topic or become profane.

2. Be clear that your opinions are your own

- The ASR has an agreed list of people who are authorised to speak on their behalf
- Unless you are on that list, do not portray yourself as a spokesperson, even an “unofficial” spokesperson, on anything on behalf of the ASR

3. Use common sense

- If you are in doubt about whether something is appropriate, then don't post it.
- Play it smart and seek clarification first.
- If you spot a potential issue, bring it to the attention of a member of the Council before it reaches a crisis situation. Potential issues can often be resolved more effectively and efficiently if they are identified quickly

4. Understand that what you say is permanent

- Search engines and other technologies make it virtually impossible to take something back
- Be sure you mean what you say, and say what you mean; if you're not sure, don't post it

5. Breaches of these guidelines will be actioned

- Breaches of the ASR's Social Media policy will be handled by the Council
- Penalties for breaches could include a warning, suspension or, in severe cases, exclusion from the ASR
- Examples of breaches include but are not limited to:
 - I. Offensive comments about the ASR, its members or other stakeholders made on a personal Facebook page or private chat page comprising ASR members
 - II. Inappropriate (e.g. racist) comments made on Facebook, LinkedIn or Twitter about any of The ASR's stakeholders