FACEBOOK RULES TO LIVE BY

Before allowing your teen to get their Facebook account (or any other social networking site), follow these 10 important Facebook rules to live by:

1. Execute the *"Rules of Engagement: Cell Phone and Social Media Contract."*

2. Request your children's passwords so you can monitor their online social content and postings on a regular basis. Teach them to safeguard their password. Explain how important it is to *never* tell anyone their password, not even their best friend.

3. Teach your kids how to use the "Ignore/Block/Report" program to stop any type of offensive or abusive behavior.

4. Frequently monitor your child's Facebook pages. Watch for photos, posts, bullies, and anything that doesn't seem right. Watch for "Tagging" and photos that have been posted to their profile.

5. Make sure your child's accounts are always set on "Private" and teach your child to avoid posting private information, especially information that could lead to a physical attack. *Example*: address, phone number and other personal information should not be posted.

6. Watch out for foul or inappropriate language – have your child delete posts or updates that include this type of language.

7. Watch out for inappropriate photo posts – teach your children to think twice before posting updates and require your teen to delete inappropriate photos immediately.

8. Require that your kids only accept "Friend Requests" from people they know and frequently view on their friends list. Keep an eye open for people you don't know.

9. Communicate and educate your teens about Internet safety and how to watch out for online predators. Teach them to trust their instincts; don't carry on conversations with creepy people, and delete them immediately when they come across one.

10. Discuss how "Checking In" or updating a post using Facebook "Places" is dangerous and off limits.

> *Important: For children between the ages of 8-14, take a look at the new social network imbee. It's a cool, safe and fun environment for teens to share their social experiences online.*
> *www.imbee.com*