



## Guidelines for Photographic/Recorded Images

It should be noted that having photographic and film guidelines is not about preventing parents and guardians from taking pictures, but rather to ensure that only those who have a right to take photographs do so.

These safeguards should still permit and facilitate the recording of relevant and suitable materials, should allow us to photograph the enjoyment gained by participating in events, should enable coaches to use the latest technology in the delivery of training skills and should also enable the club to promote our activities in a safe and non-threatening manner.

A common sense approach is required when deciding on what may or may not be appropriate as we do not wish to prohibit the recording of competitions, coaching sessions or celebrations at club level through the use of photography or by recording on video equipment

The key concerns regarding the use of images and photographs of children/young people relate to:  
The possible identification of children when a photograph is accompanied by personal information and its inappropriate use thereafter  
The inappropriate use, adaptation or copying of images for use in child pornography or illegal website  
The taking of inappropriate photographs or recorded images of children

It should be noted that we have little or no influence on what photographs may be taken and published in local or national newspapers as such photography is covered by a different set of guidelines. Should we ever be unhappy with the publication of such photographs or images we can address this matter with the individual newspaper or the Press Council of Ireland and the Office of the Press Ombudsman.

Photography and the recording of images in a public place do not generally require explicit or prior consent. However if an event is taking place, involving underage athletes, in a public, private or local authority area, and if you are in charge of such an event you are entitled to request a person to resist from taking photos if you feel that such action or photography may be inappropriate.

In general individual children should not be identified with the exception being when they are being publicly acknowledged (e.g. an award or achievement), for which prior consent has been given.

Children and young people have a right to privacy and therefore their consent should be sought in relation to the use of personal data including images. Parental consent should also be sought and the club should receive signed permission from the athlete's parents or guardians for the recording of photographic and recorded images etc as part of the player's registration process. Information should also be provided as to how and for what purpose images will be used.

Be aware that refusal of consent should not in any way limit children or young people's participation in activities.



## BEST PRACTISE GUIDELINES:

- The club will ask for the athlete's and parental permission to use their image. This consent could be included in the annual registration form.
- All children/young people featured in recordings must be appropriately dressed.
- The photograph or recording should focus on the activity rather than a particular young person.
- In general, no personal details relating to the young person should be revealed as accompanying materials to the photograph or recorded image, with the exception being where they are being publicly acknowledged (e.g. an award or personal achievement), for which consent has been given.
- Group photographs may be taken but it is not necessary to match an athlete's name with the position in which they may be standing or seated in the group photograph. This is a precautionary recommendation based on previous examples of misuse of photographs by those who sought to exploit the gathering of young people together in an enjoyable and fun environment.
- Clubs, coaches and volunteers should be permitted to use video equipment as a legitimate coaching aid and as a means of recording special occasions; however, care should be taken in the dissemination, storage and use of such material.
- Parents and spectators taking photographs/recordings should where possible seek permission in advance from the Club and should also be prepared to identify themselves if requested and state the purpose for their photography/filming. If Club committee members are unhappy about any matter relating to such photography the permission granted should be withdrawn immediately.
- When commissioning professional photographers or inviting the press to a competition or training session ensure that they are clear about our expectations of them in relation to child protection.
- Any instances of the use of inappropriate images should be reported to the Club Children's Officer and/or appropriate Designated Person and also to the relevant statutory authorities if deemed necessary.