



Photography & Photographing of Swimmers Policy

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Hatfield Swimming Club (HSC) is committed to safeguarding and protecting all children in swimming. Hatfield Swimming Club has adopted the ASA 'Wavepower 2009/11 Policies and Procedures' including the 'Photography and Photographing of Swimmers Policy'. In this policy, the terms "child" or "children" refer to anyone under the age of 18 years.

Wavepower documentation can be found on the ASA website. There are links to this information on the 'Welfare Policy' page of the Hatfield Swimming Club website.

Scope of this Policy

This Policy applies to all photographs taken on film or digital camera (including mobile phones) and all sorts of moving pictures including video recordings (and video streaming).

Aims of this Policy

The ASA aims to help clubs avoid three potential sources of child abuse:

- A)** The use, adaptation, or copying of images for child abuse, either on the Internet or in print.
- B)** The possible identification of a child when an image is accompanied by significant personal information, which can lead to the child being 'groomed'.
- C)** The identification and locating of children where there are safeguarding children concerns. Such cases would include, for example, children who could be compromised by an image because:
 - They are removed from their family for their own safety.
 - There are restrictions on their contact with one parent following a parental separation.
 - They are a witness in criminal proceedings.

Recommended Best Practice

- 1)** The publishing of a photograph of a swimmer under 18 years of age, either on a notice board or in a published article or video recording of swimming competitions (which includes video streaming), should only be done with the parents' consent and in line with ASA guidelines.
- 2)** A parent or guardian has a right to refuse to have children photographed. Therefore, any photograph that may go to press or appear on a notice board (whether taken by a member of the club or an official photographer) should have received parental consent (either in writing or witnessed by another person) before it is published or displayed.
- 3)** Under ASA guidance on the taking of photographs, once a parent has signed the club's Photography Book/Register we are happy for them to take photographs on the belief that their swimmer is the main subject of the photograph. Other competitors nearby may be included in the shot, but should not be the main subject of the photograph. However, another person can object to a parent/carer taking a photograph if they believe their child (not the child of the photographer) to be the main subject of the photograph.
- 4)** Mobile phones should be registered as a camera if it has that facility in line with our policy on cameras. If mobile phones are taken into changing rooms, the facility to take photographs must not be used.
- 5)** In the case of open meets and other competitions where the host club has an official photographer present, all parents attending should be made aware of this in your meet details. If photographs are to be published anywhere, the individual parent should be given the opportunity to withhold their consent. Their right to do so should be specifically drawn to their attention.
- 6)** The taking of photographs during training sessions by a parent/carer is not allowed unless the express permission of the Head Coach has been obtained in writing. However, another parent can still object to a parent/carer taking a photograph if they believe their child (not the child of the photographer) to be the main subject of the photograph. In this case the Head Coach's permission is rescinded automatically and photography must stop.

The ASA guidelines on photos for publication:

All photographs must observe generally accepted standards of decency, in particular:

- Action shots should be a celebration of the sporting activity and not a sexualised image in a sporting context.

- Action shots should not be taken or retained where the photograph reveals a torn or displaced swimming costume.
 - Poolside shots of children should normally be above the waist only in a swimming costume, though full length tracksuit shots are approved.
 - Photographs should not be taken from behind swimming blocks at the start of a race, or exhibit young swimmers climbing out of the swimming pool.
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