

Guidelines on Use of Photographic and Filming Equipment at Competitions for Children or Vulnerable Adults.

The BEF is keen to promote positive images of young people taking part in equestrian sport and is not preventing photography or videoing at events. However organisers and club officials must ensure proper safeguards are in place.

There is a potential risk posed to young children through the use of photographs on web sites and publications. There is evidence in sport in general to show that photographs have been:

- Used to identify children which places them at risk from those who wish to groom children for abuse
- Used or adapted and placed on child pornography sites.

For these reasons, the following guidelines for children's events have been drawn up: Professional photographers/filming/video operators wishing to attend BEF events must:

- Be given a clear brief
- Wear identification
- Not be given unsupervised access to competitors
- Not be allowed to take photos outside the event (e.g. a child's home or school).

Any other spectators (e.g. amateur photographers, parents) wishing to film or take photographs using any form of telephoto lens must:

- Register their name and address at the designated point or wear recognised identification i.e. Armband

Videoing as a Training aid: there is no intention to prevent the use of video equipment as a legitimate training aid. However, riders and their parents should be aware that this is a part of the training programme and care should be taken in the storing of such films.

In any promotional material or publication:

- Consideration should be given to using images, models and illustrations rather than photographs
- Only images of suitably dressed riders should be used (focus on the activity not a particular child; avoid full face and body shots).
- Permission should be sought in writing from riders (and their parents) before using their image
- Remember that if the young person is named, do not include a photograph; if a photograph is used, do not name the young person
- Group Photos: It should be noted that responsible newspapers/publications are now publishing the names of children in group photography in alphabetical order, not in the traditional 'left to right' way. Therefore making identification harder. Event organisers should adopt this practice when dealing with all publicity.

Report any concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography to the event organiser immediately and as soon as possible to the relevant NGB.

For Information Only