



## Photographic Policy

Re: Use of photographic/filming equipment

City of Manchester Water Polo Club (COMWPC) in accordance with guidelines set out by Manchester Leisure Sports Development (MLSD) strive to provide the utmost protection for the children & young people taking part in all of their competitions, events and programmes.

This is achieved by any member of the public or press attending COMWPC programmes having to register their camera/video recorder or any other equipment capable of recording images e.g. mobile phones with the programme manager on entry at the event, or if need be, being informed of a total ban on taking images.

Anybody refusing to do so will **NOT** be admitted to the area of activity.

People operating registered equipment will be given an official sticker that **MUST** be displayed at all times and a list of fixtures or teams that have exercised their right to have no images taken of their children.

Furthermore we give the opportunity to all schools, community groups and individuals to request that no images be taken of their respective children either as a group or as individuals.

### Guidelines for use of photographic/filming equipment at sporting events

There is much public concern around Child Protection issues and strict policies on photography have been adopted by national sporting agencies. The procedures here are an attempt to blend these legitimate concerns with the need for workable solutions and to find middle ground.

In light of this CoMWPC would request all members of the press and public abide by the following photography procedures for the safety of all those involved in their activities.

- Press photographers should inform the organisers in advance if they intend to come to any event. Equipment must be registered when press accreditation is issued. Cameras or any other equipment capable of recording images e.g. mobile phones, are not allowed on the premises of any of the venues unless they have been registered.
- There are a small number of young people who do **not** (for a number of reasons) wish to have their photograph taken under any circumstances. We have decided that these children (or their parents/guardians) will need to make press photographers aware if they do not want their photographs taken, and we would expect members of the press to respect these wishes. Any photographs used by event organisers for their publicity and promotion in future will be checked with parents in advance to gain their consent.
- No individual young person(s) may be taken away from the main public places at the pool for the purpose of photography unless they are chaperoned by an official at all times.



- Wherever possible, the names of young people should not be printed together with photographs. Alternative captions could include such statements as “Manchester’s winning Girls’ Water Polo team celebrates their victory”.
- If, in the opinion of the publication concerned, it is necessary to include the name of a young person, this should be limited to the name of the young person and the borough, which they represent. In no circumstances should a caption include specific information about where the child lives, which school they attend, or which sports club they play for.
- If a young person becomes the subject of a particularly newsworthy story due to an outstanding performance etc then we would ask that any reporter liaise with the parents of the person, if present, or the young person’s coach or team official to pursue the story.

There is evidence that some people have used sporting events as an opportunity to take inappropriate photographs or film footage of young and disabled sports-people in vulnerable positions. All clubs/coaches/officers should be vigilant and any concerns should be reported to:

Mrs Anne Huck, CoMWPC Welfare Officer

If you do not agree to photographs being taken please delete the words ‘Photographic Policy’ on the Membership Form.