

Creating a Safe Environment in Sport

Code of Good Conduct for the Use of Photographs

The following are **common sense** examples of how to create a positive culture and climate within sport:

Guidelines for Use of Photographic Filming Equipment at Sporting Venues

Photographs and Filming

There is evidence that some people have used sporting venues as an opportunity to take inappropriate photographs or film footage of children. It is advisable that all member clubs, associations, leagues or regions adhere to the appropriate guidelines issued by the Scottish Youth FA. In addition, these guidelines are in line with SFA Child Protection guidelines.

Examples of General Instructions which may be helpful:

Anyone wishing to use photographic/film/video equipment during any Scottish Youth FA activity must firstly obtain the approval of both competing clubs. Approval may require proof of identification to be produced and registration of the photographers' details. Photography in changing rooms and associated areas is not allowed.

Professional photographers/filming/video operators wishing to record any Scottish Youth FA activity should seek accreditation from both competing clubs by producing their professional identification for the details to be recorded. Ideally they should request this at least five working days before the activity.

Students or amateur photographers/film/video operators wishing to record any Scottish Youth FA activity should seek accreditation from both competing clubs by producing their student sport club or registration card and a letter from their sport club/educational establishment outlining their motive for attending the activity.

All other spectators wishing to use photographic/film/video equipment with a telescopic or zoom lens should register their intent with both competing clubs.

Competition Accreditation procedure: a system should be adopted whereby a record should be made of an amateur photographer's, film or video operator's name and address and organisation. Professionals should register prior to the activity and their identification details should be checked with the issuing authority prior to the activity. On registering, promoters of events should consider issuing an identification label on the day, which can serve to highlight those who have accreditation but must ensure that where regular events occur, the identifying label is changed to prevent unofficial replication.

Public information: the specific details concerning photographic/video and filming equipment should, where possible, be published prominently in activity programmes and must be announced over the public address system prior to the start of the event.

The recommended wording is:

'In line with the recommendation in the Scottish Youth FA's Protection Policies, the promoters of this event request that any person wishing to engage in any video, zoom or close range photography should register their details with the Organising Secretary or National Secretary in

advance and staff at the spectator entry point before carrying out any such photography. The promoter reserves the right of entry to this activity and reserves the right to decline entry to any person unable to meet or abide by the promoter's conditions.'

If you have concerns: if you are concerned about any photography taking place at an event, contact either the Organising Secretary or the National Secretary and discuss it with them. If appropriate the person about whom there are concerns should be asked to leave and the facility managers should be informed.

Videoring as a coaching aid: there is no intention to prevent sport organisation coaches and teachers using video equipment as a legitimate coaching aid. However, where appropriate, consents should be obtained for the purposes of making a training video. Performers and their parents/carers should be aware that this is part of the coaching programme and care should be taken in the storing of such films.

Protecting Children on the Internet

Sport websites provide football organisations with excellent opportunities to broadcast their achievements to the world and use it to make contacts and provides a showcase for the activities of young players. A football web-site may be used as an information resource to allow publishing and distributing information as a replacement or supplement for paper. It also gives easy access for people who wish to contact the Scottish Youth FA or SYFA member. A football web-site without pictures of players would appear very dry and seem unrealistic. If, however, players are identified, without appropriate safeguards being in place, and contacted by outsiders, and should the player be abused, the sport organisation may be held responsible for placing the child in potential danger.

It is essential that anyone creating a web-site follows a few simple guidelines designed to ensure the personal safety of children.

Principles

At no time should any player's personal information, home address, e-mail address or phone number appear on the Internet. Any contact information should be the sport organisation's e-mail address, postal address or phone number.

For a child under 16 years, written permission should be obtained from a child's parent/guardian before publishing his/her photograph on the website. The parent/guardian should also be given the opportunity to preview the material before publication. Should any of the material subsequently be changed, parents must be informed and permission re-sought to publish the photograph and supporting information.

Children over 16 are outside the scope of this policy and can give permission themselves for photographs. However, given that the parental responsibility (Section 1 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995) to advise and guide their child pertains until the child is 18 (if the child is not married), children and young people should be advised to discuss material to be published with parents in the first instance, before reaching a decision.

Pictures of named individuals should not be used or pictures clearly showing where the young people come from (easily read group nametags on team strips etc). The content of pictures should be considered for good taste.

Meeting places and times. This information should not be published on the web-site. Don't publish information without thinking about what you are doing. Making training times and location explicitly available on the web is an open invitation for thieves to break into a member of staff's house, as they will be out!

Training Events. Whilst you may want to publicise dates and locations of future events, do not go into too much detail if you feel that young people might be put at risk because constant supervision might be difficult.

The Player Protection Officer or representative should take care at all times to ensure that publication of any photographs or personal details do not place children at risk. Material relating to individual children and young people should always be within a sport organisation context. Credit for children's achievements should be given as team or forename e.g. *Stephen was Player of the Year*

Specific Advice on Use of Photographs

Sport organisations wishing to depict activities may use pictures of children and young people provided that the children and young people are not identifiable. To protect children, where possible, use photographs which show the child in profile or with their backs to the cameras or ensure their faces are out of shot. Endeavour to use only group or team photographs with general labels such as *a sport event*. Only in exceptional circumstances should a Sport organisation consider it appropriate to publish the photograph of an individual child where the child is identifiable e.g. national award.

Publish only forenames and avoid providing personal details of the individual or any information which would make it possible to identify the child.

Dress

Wherever possible, no matter what activity is being depicted no child should ever be shown in a provocative pose or in a state of partial undress other than when depicting a sporting activity. Where relevant you should consider whether a tracksuit is more appropriate attire.

Vulnerable Children

Particular care should be taken where it is known that the child is potentially vulnerable e.g. the child has been the subject of a child protection issue or custody dispute.

It would also be important to take care in publishing photographs of children with a physical, learning and/or communication/language disability, as they could be particularly vulnerable to abuse.

Parental Consent Form

Every Scottish Youth FA member club, association, league or region using photographs must obtain the consent of the players parents and to assist all members please find included a Parental Consent Form that you should consider using.

IF YOU REQUIRE ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE PLEASE CONTACT:

**THE NATIONAL SECRETARY
SCOTTISH YOUTH FA
HAMPDEN PARK
GLASGOW
G42 9BF**

Tele: 0141 620 4590



PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

I, being the Parent / Guardian of Player
..... D.O.B. hereby give my consent
for the player to travel with..... on any authorised Club Activities as and when selected.

I also give permission to the relevant official ofto make such emergency decisions as necessary with regard to the treatment of any medical condition or injury received during any activity until such times as I can be contacted. I authorise them to sign any medical documents necessary for the emergency treatment of the player should the need arise and I am unable to be contacted immediately. (Anesthetics etc.)

Medical History of my child (this will be kept confidential and only shown to medical staff should the need arise)

Player's Doctor..... **Surgery Tel No**

Allergies / Dietary requirements.....

Medicines the player will require to take with them

PLAYERS SHOULD GIVE TWO SUPPLIES OF EACH MEDICINE TO THE SQUAD MANAGER BEFORE DEPARTURE

Photography — I give my permission for my child to have HIS/HER photograph taken as part of any individual or team photographs and for these photographs to be used and reproduced by..... in such a manner, as they deem appropriate. Usage will be in line with any guidelines within the SYFA Player and Official Protection Policy (when completed) or policy of the Scottish Football Association.

SIGNED PARENT / GUARDIAN.....

Alternative Emergency telephone numbers should there be no reply at home.

Contact name.....Contact Number (include STD Code).....

SIGNED PARENT/GUARDIAN.....

Print Name

Address

..... Tel No Mobile No

Players will not be allowed to take part in any Club Activities without this consent form being signed and returned to: -