

FYF PHOTOGRAPHY POLICIES

PURPOSE

There has been considerable discussion about whether it is safe to take images of children participating in sports, especially swimming. While the great majority of images are appropriate and are taken in good faith, it is a fact that images can be misused, and children can be put at risk if common-sense procedures are not observed.

POLICIES

1. The publishing of a photograph of a swimmer under 18, either on a notice board, social media, or in a published article or video recording (including video streaming) of swimming competitions ("publication"), should only be done with parents' consent, given or denied each season during the YMCA's registration process, which can be revoked at any time.
2. A parent or guardian has the right to refuse to have children photographed. The exercise of this right of refusal cannot be used as grounds for denying entry into a swimming competition. Most meet packets specify that participants agree to be filmed and photographed and state that parents/guardians must inform the coach and Meet Director before the meet if they do not wish to be. Their right to do so should be specifically drawn to their attention.

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

- Action shots should be a celebration of the sporting activity and not a sexualized image in a sporting context.
- Action shots should not be taken or retained where the photograph reveals a torn or displaced swimsuit.
- Photographs should not be taken from behind swimming blocks at the start of a race or show a child climbing out of the swimming pool.
- Photographs should not be taken in locker rooms or bathrooms.