

Photographs At Pony Club Events



Photographers should be known to the District Commissioner or Event Organiser before taking photographs at Pony Club events. The District Commissioner may wish to get a DBS check carried out and some sort of identification must be worn at all times at the event.

Avoid the use of the first name and surname of individuals in a photograph. This reduces the risk of inappropriate, unsolicited attention from people within and outside The Pony Club.

If parents or other spectators are intending to photograph or video at an event they should be asked to register at the event if they wish to use photographic equipment.

If the person is named, avoid using their photograph.

If a photograph is used, avoid naming the person.

Ask for parental permission to use an image of a young person. This ensures that parents are aware of the way the image of their child is representing the sport. A parental permission form is one way of achieving this.

If you are commissioning a professional photographer or inviting the press to an event, it is important that they understand your expectations of them in relation to child protection. You should:

- Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of their behaviour and the content of the photography.
- Issue them with identification which they must display at all times.
- Inform child and parents that a photographer will be present at the event and ensure they consent to filming and/or photography and to its publication.
- Do not allow photographers unsupervised access to child competitors or one to one photo sessions during the event.
- Do not approve photo sessions outside the events or at a competitor's home.

Using photographs of Children on Web sites

Sporting organisations and clubs need to develop a policy about the use of images of children on their web sites and make decisions about the type of images that represent your sport appropriately and to ensure parents support the policy.

When assessing risk, the most important factor is the potential of inappropriate use of the images. You should take the following steps to reduce the potential for misuse:

- Avoid using children's full names (first name and surname) in photograph captions. So if the child is named, avoid using his or her photograph. If the photograph is used, avoid naming the child.
- Use a parental permission form to request and record parental permission to use an image of their child. This ensures that parents know that an image of their child is being used to represent The Pony Club.
- Ask for children's permission to use their image. This ensures that they are aware of the way their image is being used to represent The Pony Club. The permission form is one way of achieving this.
- Only use images of children in suitable dress to reduce the risk of inappropriate use. It is difficult to specify exactly what content is appropriate given the wide diversity of sports. However, certain sports activities, swimming, running and shooting, for example – present a much greater risk of potential misuse. Images of these sports should focus on the overall activity, not on a particular child and should avoid full face and body shots. This means, for example, that photographs of children in a pool would be appropriate if shot poolside from waist or shoulder up. The age of children is another factor to consider when deciding what is appropriate.
- Create a recognised procedure for reporting the use of inappropriate images to help reduce the risks to competitors.

If a local newspaper requires information about a member it is up to the individual to contact the newspaper in question and not the newspaper contact the member personally.

You must obtain permission for the videoing/photographs to be taken both from the subjects and their parents / guardians.

Any other spectators (e.g. amateur photographers, parents / guardians) 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 coaching aid

Video can be a legitimate coaching aid for club coaches and teachers. However, if it is used make sure that children and their parents / guardians understand that it is part of the coaching programme. Make sure that the films are then stored safely.

Incidents

For the privacy of those involved, photos should not be taken of a rider receiving first aid treatment.