

HSA TEAM: PHOTO & VIDEO POLICY

PURPOSE

There has been much talk about whether it is safe to have images taken of children participating in sports. 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.

APPLICABILITY

Photographs or videos of swimmers under the age of 18, where they are identifiable by name and image, may only be published (e.g., on noticeboards, in articles, or videos of competitions) with parental consent using the attached form.

Parents or guardians have the right to refuse consent for their child to be photographed, and this cannot be used to deny the child entry into a swimming competition. Any photo intended for publication—whether on a noticeboard, in the press, or on public-facing social media—requires prior parental consent, preferably in writing. This applies to images taken by club members or official photographers. For open meets or other competitions with an official photographer, the host club must inform all attending parents in the meet invite. The refusal-of-consent form is provided on page 2 of this policy.

All photographs and/or videos must observe generally accepted standards of decency in particular:

- Action shots should be a celebration of athletic activity and not a sexualized image of the athlete in a sporting context.
- Action shots should not be taken or retained where the photograph or video reveals a torn or displaced swimsuit.
- **USA Swimming prohibits photos and videos taken from behind swimming blocks at any point during practice and competition.**
- Photos and videos are prohibited from being taken in locker-rooms and bathrooms.

DISCIPLINE

Failure to follow the above rules may result in disciplinary measures, including:

1. Suspension from events or practices
2. Suspension from the team
3. Expulsion from the team

The purpose of this code of conduct for athletes is to establish consistent expectations for athletes' behavior. By signing this code of conduct, I have read the entirety of this document and agree with the following statements:

As the Parent/Guardian of _____, I declare the following:

Take photos or videos to be used on **HSA**'s website

Given Refused

Take photos or videos to include publication in newspaper articles or other public-facing sources

Given Refused

Take photographs or videos for use on **HSA**'s noticeboard or **HSA**'s social media sites

Given Refused

Take photos or videos for training purposes only

Given Refused

I understand that if I violate this code of conduct, I will be subject to disciplinary action determined by my coach(es) and/or **HSA**'s Board of Directors.

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date