

Use of Photographic and Filming Equipment at Competitions and Events

Principles

The Northern Ireland Judo Federation is committed to providing a safe environment for children/young people under the age of 18. Essential to this commitment, is to ensure that all necessary steps should be taken to protect children/young people from the inappropriate use of their images in resource and media publications, on the Internet, and elsewhere.

Key Concerns

There have been concerns about the risks posed directly and indirectly to children and young people through the use of photographs on Judo web sites and other publications. By adopting the points highlighted in these guidelines, you will be putting into place the best possible practice to protect children/young people wherever and whenever photographs and recorded images are taken and stored.

These guidelines focus on the following key areas:

- *The publishing of photographic and/or recorded images of children/young people*
- *The use of photographic filming equipment at Judo events*
- *The use of video equipment as a coaching aid*

And adopt the following fundamental principles:

- *The interests and welfare of children/young people taking part in Judo are paramount*
- *Parents/carers and children/young people have a right to decide whether children/young people's images are to be taken, and how those images may be used*
- *Parents/carers and children/young person must provide written consent for children/young person's images to be taken and used*
- *Images should convey the best principles and aspects of Judo, such as fairness and fun*
- *Care should be taken to ensure that images are not sexual or exploitative in nature, nor open to apparent misinterpretation and misuse*
- *Images should only be taken by authorised persons, as agreed in the protocol for a particular event*
- *All images of children/young person should be securely stored*
- *In the case of images used on websites, particular care must be taken to ensure that no identifying details facilitate contact with a child/young person by a potential abuser*

Publishing Images - Easy Rules to Remember:

- *Ask for written permission from the member and carer/s to take and use their image. This ensures that they are aware of the way the image is intended to be used to represent the sport. A Consent Form is one way of achieving this.*
- *If the member is named, avoid using their photograph*
- *If a photograph is used, avoid naming the member. And **NEVER** publish personal details (email addresses, telephone numbers, addresses etc.) of a child/young person*
- *Only use images of member s in suitable dress (Tracksuit, full Judogi, i.e. T-shirt/shorts/skirt, off mat clothing) to reduce the risk of inappropriate use*
- *Try to focus on the activity rather than a particular child and where possible use photographs that represent the broad range of children/young people taking part in Judo. This might include: Boys and girls, ethnic minority communities, children/young people with disabilities*

- *Ensure that images reflect positive aspects of children/young people's involvement in Judo (enjoyment/competition etc.)*

NI Judo Federation does not want to prevent carers or other spectators being able to take legitimate photographs or video footage of competitors. However, there is evidence that specific individuals will visit sporting events to take inappropriate photos or video footage of children/young people. All Clubs and Areas should be vigilant about this possibility. Any concerns during an event should be reported to the Lead /Club DLP for Safeguarding or the Tournament Director.

If you are commissioning a photographer or inviting the press to an event, they must understand your expectations of them concerning child protection.

You should:

- *Inform members and carers that a photographer will be in attendance at an event and ensure they consent to both the taking and publication of films or photographs*
- *Ensure that a system is introduced to ensure that press photographers are made aware of those children/young people without consent for images to be taken.*
- *Provide a detailed brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of content and behaviour*
- *Issue the photographer with identification which must be worn at all times*
- *Do not allow unsupervised access to members or one to one photo sessions at events*
- *Do not approve/allow photo sessions outside the events or at a member's home*

If carers or other spectators are intending to photograph or video at an event they should also be made aware of your expectations:

- *Carers and spectators should be asked to register at an event if they wish to use photographic equipment including mobile phones with photographic technology*
- *Members and spectators should be informed that if they have concerns, they can report these to the organiser*
- *Concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography should be reported to the event organiser or official, and recorded in the same manner as any other child protection concern*

Professional photographers/filming/video operators wishing to record the event should seek accreditation with the event organiser by producing their professional identification for the details to be registered. Ideally, they should request this at least five working days before the event.

Students or amateur photographers/film/video operators wishing to record the event should seek accreditation with the event organiser by producing their student or club registration card and a letter from their club / educational establishment outlining their motive for attending the event.

All other spectators wishing to use photographic / film/video equipment should register their intent with the organiser/Tournament Director of the event.