



DOWNPATRICK FOOTBALL CLUB



Est. 2001

website: www.downpatrickfc.co.uk email: secretary@downpatrickfc.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOING GUIDANCE

PHOTOGRAPHS AND IMAGES OF CHILDREN

There have been concerns about the risks posed directly and indirectly to children and young people through the use of photographs on sports websites and other publications. Photographs can be used as a means of identifying children when they are accompanied with personal information. This is X who lives at Y, is a member of the Z gymnastics club and who likes a certain music group. This information can make a child vulnerable to an individual who may wish to start to “groom” that child for abuse. Secondly the content of the photo can be used or adapted for inappropriate use. There is evidence of this adapted material finding its way onto child pornography sites.

DOWNPATRICK FOOTBALL CLUB has decided that we needed to develop a policy in relation to the use of images of young people on our website and in other publications. We have considered the type of images that are suitable and that appropriately represent our sport, without putting children at increased risk. We have ensured that parents support this policy. When assessing the potential risks in the use of images of athletes, the most important factor is the potential of inappropriate use of images of children.

By increasing the awareness of the potential risks and taking appropriate steps the potential for misuse of images can be reduced.

DOWNPATRICK FOOTBALL CLUB will:

- Consider using models or illustrations if you are promoting an activity
- 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 sport.

GUIDANCE:

- If the child is named, avoid using their photograph.
- If a photograph is used, avoid naming the child.
- Ask for the child’s permission to use their image.
- Ask for parental permission to use an image of a young person.
- Only use images of children in suitable dress to reduce the risk of inappropriate use.
- Create a recognised procedure for reporting the use of inappropriate images to reduce the risks to children. Follow your child protection procedures, ensuring both your sports child protection officer and the Social Services and/or Police are informed.



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Guidelines for Use of Photographic Filming Equipment at Matches and Training Events at **DOWNPATRICK FOOTBALL CLUB**

- Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of content and behaviour.
- Issue the official photographer with identification, which must be worn at all times.
- Inform children and parents that a photograph will be in attendance at an event and ensure they consent to both the taking and publication of films or photographs.
- Not allow unsupervised access to children or one to one photo sessions at events.
- Not approve/allow photo sessions outside the events or at a child's home.
- Ensure that if parents or other spectators are intending to photograph or video at an event they should also be made aware of your expectations.
- Ask spectators to register at an event if they wish to use photograph equipment.
- Inform children and parents that if they have concerns they could report these to the organiser.

Encourage anyone with concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography to report these to the event organiser or official and recorded in the same manner as any other child protection concern.

