BALDIVIS LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE INC.

Registration Number: A1025103V

RECORDING AND PHOTOGRAPHING CHILDREN POLICY

24/06/2024

INTRODUCTION

Most people taking images of children at sporting events do so for acceptable reasons and use appropriate methods. Examples include parents videoing their child at a sports presentation, grandparents photographing their grandchild on the field during play, or professional photographers taking photos for a club. However, sports clubs and associations must consider important factors when acquiring and displaying images of children and young people on social media, websites, online platforms, publications, or other mediums.

POLICY STATEMENT

Baldivis Little Athletics Centre (Baldivis LAC) has established this policy to ensure that these guidelines for taking photographs are followed. This policy aims to protect the privacy and safety of all athletes, particularly children and young people, during events and activities.

This policy only applies to events run by Baldivis Little Athletics Centre and not Region or State events which fall under the Athletics West policy.

THE LAW

In Australia, there is generally no law restricting photography of people, including children, in public spaces as long as the images are NOT:

- Indecent, such as 'up skirt' or 'down blouse' photographs taken covertly in change rooms or toilets.
- Used for voyeurism or made for the purpose of observing and visually recording a person's genital or anal region.
- Protected by a court order, such as child custody or witness protection.
- Defamatory.
- Used for commercial purposes, where a person's likeness is used to endorse or entice people to buy a product.
- Photos of a child, including your own, also contravene Criminal Codes and censorship laws if the child is photographed in a provocative or sexual manner.

PRINCIPLES FOR TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Private Use Only

All images or video taken must be for private (non-commercial) use only, unless otherwise approved by Baldivis LAC and/or Athletics West.

2. Obtain Permission

Permission should be obtained from the child's parent/guardian prior to taking any images or video of a child or young person, particularly if they can be identified and you intend to post the images or video on to social media, outside our private Facebook page.

3. Supervised Access

Photographers (including professional photographers, spectators, fans, coaches, or members of the media) are not permitted to have unsupervised access to children.

4. Informing Athletes and Guardians

Any coach or group leader must inform any athlete and their guardian(s) if they want to video the athlete as a tool to analyse and improve performance.

5. Identification of Media and Photographers

Members of the media and professional photographers must be clearly identifiable for any events hosted by Baldivis LAC and its member associations.

PRINCIPLES FOR DISPLAYING PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Use of Models or Illustrations

Consider using models or illustrations for promotional or advertising purposes instead of actual photographs of children.

2. Obtain Permission

Obtain permission from the child's parent/guardian before taking the images of a child or young person. Ensure that all parties are aware of the how the image will be used and the duration for which it will be displayed.

3. Anonymity

If an image is used, avoid naming the child. If this is not possible, avoid using both the first name and surname together.

4. Protect Personal Information

Avoid displaying personal information such as residential address, email address, or telephone numbers if images are posted on websites or distributed in publications.

5. Avoid Detailed Personal Information

Do not display information about hobbies, likes/dislikes, school, etc., as this information could potentially be used as grooming tools by offenders or other individuals.

6. Appropriate Images

Only use appropriate images of the child, relevant to the sport or activity, and ensure that the athlete/child is suitably clothed. Avoid images of athletes in sports or activities that involve minimal clothing (e.g., swimming and gymnastics) or unusual body positions/poses could be misused.

7. Photographer Contracts

Clearly outline in a written contract to photographers who are contracted or paid to take photos, who will retain the images taken, include arrangements made for negatives, digital files, and proofs. Outline any restrictions on the use and sale of the images.

8. Record Keeping and Protection

Member Associations are to maintain a record of children who are not to be photographed, either via a formal request from the child's guardian or through court order. Apply the appropriate child protection practices accordingly within their jurisdiction.

REPORTING & RAISING CONCERN OF INAPPROPRIATE PHOTOGRAPHY

If you believe photographs are being taken inappropriately, contact a Committee Member with your concerns. The Committee Member will then assess the situation and may request the person to stop taking images. If the person refuses, the police or security may be called to escort them off the property. If there are reasonable concerns that a person (adult or child) is taking photographs that are indecent or in areas such as toilets or change rooms, a Committee Member will contact the police immediately.

If an image or video of your child has been posted online without your permission and you wish for it to be removed, first ask the person who posted the photo or video to remove it. If the person refuses or you do not know who posted it, contact or report your concern directly to the social media site.

If you believe you have witnessed a photograph or act of photography that is unlawful, submit allegations to the Western Australia Police Force immediately.

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VERSION HISTORY

VERSION	DATE	REVISED BY	COMMENTS
Original V1.0	14/06/2024	Jessica Muir	Endorsed at Committee Meeting