

The purpose is to reduce the risk of inappropriate, unsolicited attention from people within and outside the sport. Group photographs where the club is identified rather than individuals are good for publicity without creating a risk to those in the photographs. As a guide try to remember the following: -

- If the player is named, avoid using their photograph.
- If a photograph is used, avoid naming the player.
- Ask for the player permission to use their image to ensure that they are aware of the way the image is to be used to represent the sport.
- Ask for parental permission to use the player's image to ensure that parents are aware of the way the image is to be used to represent the sport. A permission form could be used **or** make an announcement at the start of an event.
- To reduce the risk of inappropriate use, only use images of player in suitable dress. The content of the photograph should focus on the activity not on a particular child
- Talk to DSCO if you are worried about use of images.

Amateur photographers/film/video operators wishing to record an event or practice session should seek permission/accreditation with the DSCO, team manager/coach and/or event organiser of session. The club / organisation should display/ state the following information prior to the start of an event to inform spectators of the policy:

*"In line with the recommendation in the Badminton Ireland's Code of Conduct (**Safeguarding Policy**), the promoters of this event request that any person wishing to engage in any video, zoom or close range photography should register their details with the organisers. If parents have any particular concern about their young person being photographed or filmed they should notify the organisers".*

Working in Partnership to protect young people

Photographs, when used with personal information, can be used as a means of identifying children. This practice can make a child vulnerable to an individual who may wish to "groom" that child for abuse. Furthermore the content of the photo can be used or adapted for inappropriate use. There is evidence of this adapted material finding its way onto web sites promoting the abusive images of children. Adults and sports leaders need to work together to prevent those wishing to cause such harm to young people.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are often given to children for security, enabling parents to keep in touch and make sure they are safe. In addition mobile phones allow quick and easy contact, which can make a safe and efficient way to carry out club business. However such technology has also allowed an increase in direct personal contact with young people and has been used to cross personal boundaries and cause harm to young people. Within clubs there is a need to encourage responsible and secure use of mobile phones by adults and young people.

As a young person remember:

- If you receive an offensive photo, email or message, do not reply, save it, make a note of times and dates and tell a parent or DSCO within the club.
- Be careful about who you give your phone number to and don't respond to unfamiliar numbers
- Change your phone number in cases of bullying or harassment
- Don't use the phone in certain locations; inappropriate use of your camera phone may cause upset or offence to another person, e.g. changing rooms
- Treat your phone as you would any other valuable item so that you guard against theft

As a Leader remember:

- Use group texts for communication among players and teams and inform parents of this at the start of the season
- It is not appropriate to have constant communication for individual players
- Don't use the phone in certain locations; inappropriate use of your camera phone may cause upset or offence to another person, e.g. changing rooms

Please also see the Child Protection in Sport Unit briefing's on Photography and Texting on BI website for more details or contact BI for hard copy