



Metro West Swimming Victoria Incorporated

Photography Policy

PURPOSE

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

SUGGESTED POLICIES

1. The publishing of a photograph of a swimmer under the age of 18 years either on a notice board or in a published article or video recording (including video streaming) of swimming competitions should only be done with parents' consent as per the attached form.
2. A parent or guardian has the right to refuse to have their child(ren) photographed. The exercise of this right of refusal cannot be used as grounds for refusing entry into a swimming competition. Therefore any photograph that may go to "press" or on a notice board, be it through a member of the District, an individual club or an official photographer, should receive parental consent before publishing / displaying the photograph and that consent should be in writing. An approval template is attached hereto.

In the case of open meets and other competitions where the District, the host club or the host venue, may have an official photographer present, all parents attending should be made aware of this in the competition information. If photographs are to be published anywhere, the individual parent should be given the opportunity to withhold their consent. Their right to do so should be specifically brought to their attention.

All photographs must observe generally accepted standards of decency, in particular:

- Action shots should be a celebration of the sporting activity and not a sexualised image in a sporting context;
- Action shots should not be taken or retained where the photograph reveals a torn or displaced swimsuit;
- Photographs should not be taken from behind the starting blocks at the start of a race or at relay change-overs; and should not exhibit a child climbing out of the pool; and
- Photographs should not be taken in locker-rooms or change rooms

Photography Consent Form

Name of Competition: _____

Date of Competition: _____

Location of Competition: _____

Chief Referee of Meet: _____

Consent Form to be returned to: _____

Metro West Swimming Victoria Incorporated ("Metro West") may wish to take photographs / video of swimmers (either individually or in groups) at the above-mentioned meet and on the dates nominated. These photographs / video may include images of your child. These photographs will be used for publicity purposes and as an historic record of the event. These photographs may be stored, printed and displayed, or be available for viewing on the Metro West public website. All photographs / video will be taken and published in line with Metro West Policy.

Metro West requires parental consent to take and use these photographic or video images.

Parents have a right to refuse consent to their child being photographed.

As the parent / guardian of _____, I allow the following:

Take photographs / video to use on the Metro West secure (public) website

Consent given Consent refused

Take photographs to use in newspaper articles, and in online articles and promotion

Consent given Consent refused

Take photographs to be distributed throughout the clubs within Metro West

Consent given Consent refused

Take photographs / video for training purposes only

Consent given Consent refused

(Swimmer's Name – please print)

(Swimmer's Club – please print)

(Signature of athlete's parent / guardian)

(Name of parent / guardian – please print)

Dated: _____