



# **Countryside YMCA Torpedoes Photography Policies**

## **Purpose**

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

## **Countryside Torpedoes Policies**

1. The publishing of a photograph of swimmer under 18 either on a notice board or in a published article or video recording (including video streaming) of swimming competitions (“publication”) should only be done with parents’ consent per the attached form.
2. A parent or guardian has a right of refuse to have children photographed. The exercise of this right of refusal cannot be used as grounds for refusing entry into a swimming competition. Therefore, any photo that may go to press or on a notice board, be it through a member of the club or official photographer, must be checked to ensure that parental consent of a child in the photograph was not revoked before publishing/displaying the photo. A form allowing parents to indicate refusal of consent is to follow.
3. In the case of open meets and other competitions where the host club has an official photographer present, all parents attending should be made aware of this in your meet information. If photos 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 drawn to their attention.
4. All photographs must observe generally accepted standards of decency in particular:
  - Action shots should be a celebration of the sporting activity and not a sexualized 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 swimming blocks at the start of a race or exhibit a child climbing out of the swimming pool.
  - Photographs should not be taken in locker-rooms or bathrooms.

***Photography Opt Out Form***

The Countryside YMCA Torpedoes photography team may wish to take photographs (individual and in groups) of swimmers under the age of 18 that may include your child during their membership in the club. All photos will be taken and published in line with club policy. If you do not want your child to be photographed, you must fill out the form below and return it to the Head Coach.

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

As the parent/caregiver of \_\_\_\_\_ I opt out of the following:

- Take photographs to use on the club’s secure website  Consent refused
- Take photographs to include with newspaper articles  Consent refused
- Take photographs to use on club notice boards  Consent refused
- Video for training purposes only  Consent refused

Athlete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to: Countryside Torpedoes Head Coach