



# Water Polo

VICTORIA

## CHILDREN & IMAGES POLICY

Water Polo Victoria (WPV) wants water polo to be fun, enjoyable and safe for all. WPV is committed to the health, safety and general wellbeing of everyone involved in the sport of water polo including ensuring that children and young people who participate in its activities have a safe and happy experience.

Over recent years, there have been concerns in the community about the potential risks of child abuse posed directly and indirectly to children and young people through the inappropriate use of video and photography. The safety of children and young people participating in our sport is of paramount importance.

WPV understands that many parents/guardians/carers and relatives who have children participating in our sport may want to take video or photographs of their child/ren or friends or family for acceptable reasons. It is rare but there is evidence that sometimes such images can be taken, altered and transmitted quickly to a vast audience by posting on the internet or publishing in magazines or newspapers where it may be used by unscrupulous people. There have also been issues relating to restraining orders and Family Court access conditions (e.g. child custody or witness protection).

To help WPV provide a safe environment for children and young people participating in our sport, the following must be followed:

1. Change rooms are camera-free zones.
2. The consent of the parent/guardian/carer is obtained prior to taking any photographs and/or videos. Consent should be obtained via the Tournament Director and/or Team Coach/Manager and ensure all concerned are aware of the way in which the image will be used prior to taking the images.
3. The Coach/Team Manager will inform the athletes and parent/guardian/carer if the Coach/Team Manager wants to video the athlete as a tool to analyse and improve performance.
4. Images of other children on internet websites and the use of names are not permitted when displaying the images in the public arena.
5. As a parent/guardian/carer or a spectator, if you notice inappropriate behaviour in obtaining images, then advise the Tournament Director and the Team Coach/Manager immediately. We also ask that you advise WPV of these concerns as soon as it is practically possible.
6. Professional photographers must register in advance with pool management and the Tournament Director and/or the Event Coordinator.

Parents/guardians/carers should be aware of the following consent declaration they declare when registering their children each year with WPV:

*I further grant permission for any photographic and/or video recording of me taken during any event conducted by Water Polo Victoria and/or Water Polo Australia and/or my registered club to be displayed, published or otherwise used for the purpose of advertisement and/or promotion of the sport*

WPV appreciates your cooperation in helping us provide a safe environment for all children and young people participating in our sport.