



COSA SWIMMING 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.

POLICIES

1. COSA Swimming may take photographs and videos for advertising, social media, promotional activities, and/or educational use.
2. A parent (or guardian) has the right to refuse to have his or her children photographed and/or related images published.
3. The exercise of this right of refusal will not be used as grounds for refusing membership into COSA Swimming nor entry into any swimming competition.
4. This refusal must be recorded in writing with the COSA Swimming Administrative Head coach in order to be effective.
5. Since review and acceptance of these policies are required as part of registration with COSA Swimming, the publication (in print and on the internet) of images is agreed to, by default, if no refusal to the contrary is recorded.

All photographs taken by COSA Swimming and its members must observe generally accepted standards of decency. In particular:

- Action shots must be a celebration of the sporting activity and not a sexualized image in a sporting context.
- Action shots must not be taken nor retained where the photograph reveals a torn or displaced swimsuit.
- Photographs must not be taken from behind swimming blocks at the start of a race nor exhibit a child climbing out of the swimming pool.
- Photographs must not be taken in locker rooms nor bathrooms.

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 the meet information. If photographs are to be published anywhere, each parent should be given the opportunity to withhold their consent. Their right to do so should be specifically drawn to their attention.