



USA SWIMMING PHOTOGRAPHER GUIDELINES

Note: Guidelines apply only to USA Swimming National Championships, Junior National Championships, Grand Prix Series events and other meets as determined by the USA Swimming Communications Staff.

I. Photographers covering a USA Swimming event may be assigned photo positions by either a designated photo chief or a USA Swimming communications department staff member. All photographers are required to abide by the following rules.

Event Rules for all photographers

- a. The USA Swimming communications department or its designee will manage and assign photo positions, enforce rules and troubleshoot. Photographers are expected to follow this direction.
- b. Photographers positioned on deck on the sides of the pool must stay in position during all races. Movement is only allowed between races. Any photographer who does not observe this rule may lose his/her position.
- c. Depending on the venue, photographers can only access catwalk positions during time(s) scheduled and approved by the photo chief/USA Swimming. If necessary, all photographers will be escorted and must sign and abide by the Catwalk Agreement.
- d. On deck photographers will defer completely to the wishes of the on-deck officials. Any issues with officials should be brought to the attention of the Photo Chief/USA Swimming, who will liaise.
- e. Photos may be used for editorial purposes only, unless provided expressed written consent by USA Swimming.
- f. Photographers are prohibited from capturing any video footage. The capture and public rebroadcast or resale, on the internet or otherwise, of any such footage will result in direct legal action by the broadcast rights-holder of the event.
- g. Photographers may utilize space in the media room as work space or to store equipment. USA Swimming and the venue are not responsible for lost or stolen equipment.
- h. Photography will be allowed during press conferences, and photographers are asked to sit in front of the stage, or in the first row of chairs.
- i. Photography in the Mixed Zone will be allowed on a meet-by-meet basis.
- j. Photographers are not allowed to enter the competition pool or warm-down pool during a competition or training session.

II. **Strobes:** Depending on lighting of the venue, strobe lights may or may not be permitted as strobe lights can pose a risk to swimmers on their starts or interfere with the television broadcast. Strobe lights will be permitted **only after approval from the head meet official and USA Swimming communications staff**. Please contact USA Swimming at media@usaswimming.org prior to the start of the meet to determine whether or not strobes will be permitted.

III. **Remote Cameras in Competition Areas:** Underwater or under-block cameras will be allowed as space allows and will be placed beneath lane lines and at least 10m out from the starting blocks. Any photographer wishing to install an underwater camera must apply for this right at least 48 hours prior to installation by submitting a request to USA Swimming at media@usaswimming.org or in person at the

venue. Installation of these cameras must be completed under the direct supervision of the head meet official. Underwater cameras may NOT be placed or removed once a session has started.

I have read and agree to abide by the above stated Guidelines. I understand that failure to comply with any of the above may result in penalties including, but not limited to, the loss of my accreditation.

Full Name: _____ Outlet: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signed forms can be faxed to USA Swimming at 719-866-4049. If you have any questions please contact USA Swimming at media@usaswimming.org.