**Greater Philadelphia Aquatic Club and Swim School**

**Photograph Policy**

PURPOSE

This policy is set to establish the procedures in which pictures and videos of athletes can and are to be taken as members of the Greater Philadelphia Aquatic Club. 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.

POLICY

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, should receive parental consent before publishing/displaying the photo, preferably in writing. A suggested form allowing parents to indicate refusal of consent is to follow.

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.

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 swim suit.

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.

Parents can opt-out of having their swimmer’s photo taken in accordance with the guidelines presented above. Parents, in order to opt-out, should fill out the form found at the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17KgAQ5\_RvcKrNYOAHqEo45iq1UfOp-yVLeM1dslWAlk/prefill