**HILTON AREA SWIM TEAM PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY**

# 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.

# HAST POLICY

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”) shall only be done with parents’ consent. Consent to most ‘club use only’ photo’s, including videos used for training, is given during registration. This consent can be revoked utilizing the **Opt Out of Photography** form attached to this policy. A parent or guardian has a right to refuse to have children photographed. The exercise of this right of refusal shall not be used as grounds for refusing entry into a swimming competition or any other club function.

In the case of open meets and other competitions where the host club has an official photographer present, parents attending will be made aware of this in the meet information. If a parent or guardian wishes to withhold their consent, they must notify the host club.

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 shall not be taken or retained where the photograph reveals a torn or displaced swimsuit or reveals private areas in any way.
* Photographs shall not be taken from behind swimming blocks at the start of a race or exhibit a child climbing out of the swimming pool.
* Photographs shall not be taken in locker‐rooms or bathrooms.

**Opt Out of Photography Form**

Hilton Area Swim Team (HAST) 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. Upon registration, consent for these photos was given. However, if you would like to exclude your swimmer from photos, the club will honor this request with the following written declaration. ***This request for omission of photos does not in any way negatively effect your swimmer or their ability to participate in any activity within our program, including competitions.***

As the parent/caregiver of

I decline or consent to the following:

Take photographs to use on the club’s secure website

Consent given  Consent refused

Take photographs to include with newspaper articles

Consent given  Consent refused

Take photographs to use on club notice boards

Consent given  Consent refused

Video for training purposes only

 Consent given  Consent refused

Signed:

Dated:

Received by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Board Member)