

RATHGAR TENNIS CLUB

POLICY ON PHOTOGRAPHY

There have been concerns about the risks posed directly and indirectly to children and young people through the use of photographs on sports websites and other publications. Photographs can be used as a means of identifying children when they are accompanied with personal information – this is X who lives at Y, is a member of the Z Tennis club and who likes a certain music group. This information can make a child vulnerable to an individual who may wish to start to “groom” that child for abuse. Secondly the content of the photo can be used or adapted for inappropriate use. There is evidence of this adapted material finding its way onto child pornography sites.

For posting photographs on the club website or for promotional use in Rathgar Tennis club eg to advertise a coaching course or children's event.

- Ensure there is parental permission. A parental permission form is given out with yearly membership enrolment.
- Ask the child's permission to use their image and ensure they are aware what it is for.
- If a child is named, avoid using their photograph
- If a photograph is used, avoid naming the child.
- Only use images of children in suitable dress to reduce the risk of inappropriate use
- Follow the procedure outlined in the Rathgar Tennis Reporting policy to report the use of any inappropriate images

Club Guidelines for Use of Photographic Filming Equipment at Sporting Events

- Rathgar Tennis Club will ensure that 'No photography without permission' signs are posted in the tennis club
- For parents of children who are attending the event it is of course acceptable to take photos of your own children for personal use.
- Photographers from outside the club (eg local media etc) must get permission from the club to take photographs, wear appropriate ID, not have unsupervised access to children or one to one photo sessions. Parents should also be informed that a photographer will be present and the club must ensure they consent to both the taking and publication of the films or photographs
- Concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography should be reported to the event organiser or official and recorded in the same manner as any other child protection concern.

For videoing children for coaching/training purposes

- Ensure explicit permission is gained from parents
- Ensure the precise reason for taking the video is given to the parents
- Ensure that videos are securely stored and destroyed after use (unless the parents wish to get a copy)

Rathgar Tennis Club does NOT advocate posting pictures or videos of club members on the social networking sites (eg facebook, youtube etc)