

# Policy for Taking Photographic and Recorded Images of Young People

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Reading Hockey Club has adopted the Policy from England Hockey.

## **Introduction**

Reading Hockey Club does not wish to prevent parents or other spectators being able to take legitimate photographs or recorded images.

The use of recorded images can also be a valuable coaching aid. However, Reading Hockey Club is committed to providing a safe environment for all young people under the age of 18 in hockey, and it is therefore committed to ensuring that all necessary steps are taken to protect young people from the inappropriate or uninformed use of their images in resources and media publications, on the internet, and elsewhere.

Photographic and recorded images can also be used as a means of identifying young people if accompanied by personal information. This has the potential to make a young person vulnerable to individuals seeking to 'groom' young people for abuse. Additionally, images can be used or adapted for inappropriate use. There is evidence of adapted sporting images being used on websites displaying images of child abuse.

## **This policy covers the following key areas:**

- the taking and/or publishing of photographic and recorded images of young people
- the use of photographic or recorded image equipment at hockey events
- the use of photographic or recorded image equipment as a coaching aid.

## **Photographic or recorded images**

This includes images or recorded images using a camera, digital camera, video recorder, mobile phone or Personal Digital Assistant device (PDA).

## **Our obligations**

Everyone within Reading Hockey Club must act in accordance with the general principles in the EHB's Policy on Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey (pages 6–7) and the principles set out in the Policy for Taking and Use of Photographic and Recorded Images of Young People (pages 14–15).

In addition, Reading Hockey Club has adopted this policy relating to the taking and use of photographic and recorded images of young people in hockey, in accordance with:

- The EHB's Policy on Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey (pages 6–7),
- The EHB's Policy for Taking and Use of Photographic and Recorded Images of Young People (pages 14–15)
- The supporting good practice guidance (Section 3).

## **How the EHB can help**

The EHB is committed to supporting its affiliated clubs and associations to implement policies through the provision of appropriate access to education and training, and supporting documentation.

The EHB is also committed to ensuring that concerns relating to the misuse of photographic or recorded images of young people in hockey are taken seriously and acted upon swiftly and appropriately. To achieve this, the EHB has developed procedures for reporting concerns, set out in Section 2 of this document.

The EHB may refer concerns to the relevant statutory agencies, instigate proceedings under its own Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations\* or refer the matter to a club or association for resolution as appropriate.

## **Principles**

- Everyone within the Club should have an understanding of the issues relating to taking and use of photographic and recorded images of young people and the EHB's policy on this.
- Parents and young people have a right to decide whether young people's images are to be taken, and how those images may be used.
- In accordance with good practice guidance for competition and tournaments (pages 37–37), parents and young people must provide written consent for young people's images to be taken and used. There may be legitimate reasons for denying consent i.e. subject to legal restrictions.
- A registration process should be used for photographers in accordance with the good practice guidance on the Taking and Use of Photographic and Recorded Images of Young People (pages 40–41). This will help deter those wishing to take photographs or recorded images for inappropriate use.
- Images should convey the best principles and aspects of hockey, such as fairness and fun.
- Care should be taken to ensure that images are not sexual or exploitative in nature, nor open to obvious misinterpretation and misuse.
- All images of young people should be securely stored to avoid inappropriate use.
- In the case of images used on websites, particular care must be taken to ensure that no identifying details facilitate contact with a young person by a potential abuser.
- Where used for coaching purposes, players and their parents should be made aware that this is part of the coaching programme and be clear of the purpose of filming as a coaching aid.
- Suspected inappropriate taking of photographic or recorded images should be challenged and reported.

**When assessing the potential risks in the use of images of players, the most important factor is the potential for inappropriate use of images of young people. Awareness of the risks, and taking appropriate steps, can reduce the potential for misuse of images.**