



OPST Media Policy

PURPOSE

There has been much talk about whether it is safe to have images taken of children participating in sports. While most 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.

POLICIES

1. The publishing of a photograph of a swimmer under 18 either on a bulletin board, on digital media platforms, in a published article or a video recording (including video streaming) of swimming competitions should only be done with parents' consent during the online registration process.
2. A parent or guardian has a right of refusal to have their children's photographs used in this manner. The exercise of this right of refusal cannot be used as a ground for refusing entry to a swimming competition. Therefore, any photo or video that may be used by it through a member of the club or official photographer, should receive parental consent before publishing/displaying the photo or video. Parental consent is given during the OPST online registration. A form allowing parents to indicate refusal of consent follows below.

All photographs must observe 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.
- No photographs are to be taken from behind the starting 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.

Photography/Video Form to Withdraw Consent

Ocean Pines Swim Team (OPST) may wish to take photographs or video (individual and in groups) of swimmers under the age of 18 that may include your child during their membership with OPST. All photos will be taken and published in line with team policy. OPST requires parental consent to take and use photographs.

Parents' consent to use photographs and video was given during the OPST online registration. If you choose to withdraw consent, complete the following form.

As the parent/guardian of _____ I am
withdrawing consent for the following:

- Use of photographs on the club's website
- Use of photographs to be included with newspaper articles
- Use of photographs on OPST bulletin boards
- Use of photographs or video on social media
- Use of photographs or video for training purposes

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form to a coach or via email to opsthammerheads@gmail.com