

## **MMSC 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.

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 form allowing parents to indicate refusal of consent follows.

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 the 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.

**Photography Consent Form**

MMSC 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. Parents have a right to refuse agreement to their child being photographed. *The default if this is not returned is to allow photography of your child(ren).*

As the parent/caregiver of \_\_\_\_\_ I allow the following

Take photographs to use on the club’s website

Consent refused

Take photographs to include with newspaper articles

Consent refused

Take photographs to use on the club’s Facebook page and other social media

Consent refused

Video for training purposes only

Consent refused

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to Head Coach Melissa Healy or the PAB President.