

SAFEGUARDING AT EVENTS

Participating in a competition or event can be the highlight of a young person or adult's enjoyment of the sport. Whether playing in a local park, with a local club, or representing their school, county, region or country, all children, young people and adults have the right to enjoy their sport safely. Equally, parents, spouse or carers need to be confident that their children and adults at risk are looked after and kept safe.

Whether you are hosting or travelling to a competition or event there are responsibilities you should be aware of. They are all referenced in the Child Protection in Sport Unit's **Safe Events Tool**.

Organising an Event

Staging a tournament, competition or event can be a rewarding but sometimes daunting task. For individuals or groups considering any such activities there are certain responsibilities and a duty of care to those involved including participants, spectators, event staff and the general public.

In addition to the general issues surrounding health and safety, events involving young people and adults at risk have some particular issues which organisers need to be aware of that relate specifically to safeguarding and include discipline, injury and illness, changing rooms and drop-off/ collection by parents/carers.

Travelling with Groups

Working with young people in sport often requires groups to move around in order to take part in competitions and attend events. There are some particular issues related to duty of care in these situations which require specific attention and include; careful planning, communication with parents/ carers, transport arrangements, supervision and staffing, insurance, accommodation arrangements and emergency procedures.

PHOTOGRAPHIC & RECORDING EQUIPMENT

The taking and using of photographic and recorded images of young people while at competitions and events is subject to the Volleyball England Photographic & Recorded Images Policy and requires written consent from parents/carers and the young person prior to participation. Example [Parent/Carer & Young Person Consent Form \(SP5\)](#).

GOOD PRACTICE

- Consent is obtained from young people and their parents/carers prior to participation and they are informed that their image will be photographed or recorded by identifiable individuals. Permission can be obtained via one consent form to cover all activities, if appropriate.
- The requirement to register as a photographer or filmographer should be prominently displayed throughout the venue, detailed in event programmes and announced over the public address at regular intervals.
- If a professional or press photographer is invited they should be provided with a clear brief about what is considered appropriate, in terms of picture content and their behaviour around young people.

In addition to this, all those wishing to take photographic or recorded images should register with competition/event organisers and obtain accreditation that clearly identifies them as a registered photographer/filmographer. Example [Photography & Videographer Registration Form \(SP4\)](#). Any individual taking photographs or recording images without displaying accreditation should be challenged by asking who they are and why they are taking photographs/recording images without permission. Any concerns should be reported to the event organisers or the event Safeguarding Officer immediately.

Unacceptable Behaviour

An adult in a position of trust should never:

- Allow unsupervised one-to-one photo sessions at events.
- Allow photo sessions outside of the event or at the young person's home.
- Allow the personal details of a young person to be published alongside their image.