



BOARD POLICY

Policy Section: Board of Directors
Policy Subsection: Sport Development
Policy Title: Safe Sporting Environment

Policy Statement

Swimming Canada provides a fun, healthy, inclusive and safe environment. Swimming enriches the lives of everyone involved by ensuring that the training and competitive environment is one where athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers know they are safe, and are treated with respect and dignity.

Purpose Statement

Swimming Canada believes that everyone in the sport has the right to enjoy the sport at whatever level or position they participate. Athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers have the right to participate in a safe and inclusive training and competitive environment that is free of abuse, harassment or discrimination.

Swimming Canada believes the welfare of everyone involved in the sport is a foremost consideration and in particular the protection of children/athletes in the sport is the responsibility of each individual, member and special interest group in the swimming community.

Application

Working in conjunction with International, National and Provincial Sections & Partner Organizations, Swimming Canada researches and defines standards and procedures, based on best practices, that ensures athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers are participating in safe and inclusive sport that is open, observable and transparent.

The framework for Safe Sport Environment focusses on the role, responsibility and practices of everyone involved in Swimming to ensure the safety of and development of swimmers.

All Swimming Canada education and certification programs, directed at officiating, coaching, parents and club development, will be consistent with and support the Safe Sport Environment strategy. Swimming Canada will ensure that “teaching moments” that address Safe Sport are included in every Swimming Canada driven consultation process and interaction.

Swimming Canada recognizes the critical role of the clubs, regions and Provincial Sections in the delivery of Safe Sport Environment program initiatives.

Responsibilities

Body	Action
Board - Sport Development Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensure that all policies of the Board related to Safe Sport are consistent with the long-term athlete development strategy2. Evaluate the progress of the goals/programs in Safe Sport.
CEO	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Delegates resources to the development of standards, operational policies and practices for Safe Sport to an appropriate Operational structure;



2. Communicates a strong position concerning the role and effective implementation of standards and practices in Safe Sport;
3. Develops an evaluation system that regularly monitors the effectiveness of initiatives in Safe Sport;
4. Develops and continually evolves the overall communication and consultation strategy to lead change among the clubs, Provincial Section Members and Swimming Canada concerning the Safe Sport.

Limitations

TBD

Resources

- Discrimination : <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- Sexual abuse: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- Physical abuse: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- Personal harassment: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- Bullying: <http://swimming.ca/en/harassment-policy-and-procedure/>
- Transgender: Swimming Canada, COC Policy definition and application

Approval

Approval: **September 29, 2016**



Event Photography and Videography Procedure

Swimming Canada believes that when used properly photography and videography are excellent tools to celebrate and promote one's involvement and achievements within the sport. We also understand that while the great majority of images are appropriate and are taken in good faith, it is fact that certain images can be misused and/or misinterpreted to put an event participant, most notably children, at risk.

Definitions

The following term has meaning in this document:

“Photography and Videography”: A blanket term referring to all forms of image capture, including but not limited to still photography, video recording, social media posts and/or video streaming.

Procedure

In order to minimize risk, all photographs and video taken at Swimming Canada/Provincial Section sanctioned competitions, whether taken by a professional photographer or videographer, spectator, team support staff or any other participant, must observe generally accepted standards of decency - in particular:

- Photography and videography are prohibited from behind swimming blocks at the start of a race or where otherwise posted;
- Photography and videography are prohibited in locker-rooms or bathrooms or any other dressing or prep area;
- 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;
- Avoid images, camera angles and poses that may be more prone to misinterpretation or misuse by others.

Failure to adhere to these procedures are subject to the [Code of Conduct and Professional Ethics](#) as per section 4.b of that policy, stating one must “Operate within the rules and spirit of the Sport including; being aware of and complying, at all times, with Swimming Canada’s bylaws, policies, procedures and rules and regulations, as adopted and amended”. In addition, failure to adhere to these procedures may also result in accreditation being revoked or removal from the event.

All event participants and spectators should be made aware of these photography and videography standards with event announcements. See below for a sample announcement, which can be added to current pre-session announcements.

“A reminder to participants; Under NO circumstances are cameras or other recording devices allowed in the area immediately behind the starting blocks during practice or competition starts, OR in locker rooms, bathrooms, or any other dressing area.”

Approval

Reviewed: March 20, 2019

Approved: March 20, 2019