

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO POLICY

The FA has become increasingly concerned about the risk posed to children in football through the misuse of photographic or other images of children.

For the purposes of this policy, a child is defined as a registered member of the club who is under the age of 18 and independent of the team or section they are registered for.

This concern relates to:

- the taking of photographs or video for improper uses
- the adaptation of innocently taken photographs or videos (for example during the development process or by mobile phone)
- the distribution and misuse of photographs and videos, particularly via the internet.

The FA has identified 3 key concerns:

- the possible identification of children via photographs and videos,
- inappropriate use, adaptation or copying of images and images for use on pornographic websites,
- the taking of inappropriate photographs and videos.

Accordingly, The FA has issued best practice guidelines. Abbeymead Rovers Football Club, in line with its overall Safeguarding Policy, has interpreted those guidelines below and incorporated them into its Safeguarding Policy and therefore undertakes to abide by these and any subsequent guidelines. This statement and the following guidelines, therefore, represent the policy of Abbeymead Rovers Football Club in this respect.

Guidelines for Parents/Guardians and Spectators

1. Be aware of the Club's policy regarding photography and video.
2. Register with the event organiser if you wish to take photographs or video footage of your own children e.g.-
 - at training inform the team manager/coach;
 - at matches, with the referee and team managers (including the opposition team);
 - at tournaments, with the event organiser (and possibly any opposition teams where required);
 - at club awards nights/registration days, with the Club Secretary or Child Welfare Officer.
3. Ensure your child is appropriately dressed when being photographed/videoed (e.g. in full football kit)
4. Remember that you have the right to prevent your child being photographed/videoed. This permission is indicated upon registration with the club but can be revoked at any time upon informing the Club Secretary.
5. Remember that other parents/guardians have the right to prevent their children from being included in photographs and video footage. A parent/guardian has the right to revoke photo/video consent at any time by informing the Club Secretary.
6. Always report any intrusive or inappropriate photography/video or behaviour to a Club Official.

Guidelines for Clubs or Persons Commissioning Photographers/Videographers:

- Provide a clear brief to the photographer/videographer about appropriate conduct, behaviour and content of photos/footage.
- Ensure that the photographer/videographer wears ID, produces identification upon request or is able to verify identification and permission with a Club Official.
- Obtain the consent of players and/or parents/guardians in writing (including any photography/video where opposition player's are included). Where the player's parent/guardian has consented to their child being photographed/videoed on their club registration form, then this constitutes as their written consent, however the validity of the consent must be confirmed on each occasion (i.e. a photographer/videographer should confirm/check that the player(s) being photographed has not withdrawn their consent between)
- Always ensure that photographers'/videographer's access to young players is supervised and controlled.
- Do not approve one-to-one photograph/video sessions.
- Do not approve photo/video sessions outside the event.

Guidelines for Publishing, Broadcasting or Distributing Photographs/Video Footage:

- Do not name a photographed/videoed child.
- Do not use a photograph/video of a named child.
- Obtain the consent of players and parents in writing (which includes consent provided through their club registration form).
- Use photos/video that focus on football, not players and shall promote good practice, for example:
 - players should be appropriately dressed (football kit as a minimum) and equipped (i.e. with shin pads etc);
 - mixed group photographs/footage are preferable to individual photos/footage;
 - include girls and boys, male and female, mixed ethnic groups, able and disabled where practically possible.

Guidelines for anyone taking photos or recording images of young players:

- Do not take photographs/footage of young players who are not appropriately dressed.
- Focus on the activity not the players.
- Take group photographs/footage where possible rather than individual photographs/footage.
- Children under the protection of a court order must never be photographed/recorded

ALWAYS report any intrusive or inappropriate photography/recording or behaviour to a Club Official. This should be the club welfare officer in the first instance and any other club official thereafter.

For serious or imminent concerns, you should contact the police or the Gloucestershire FA Welfare Department immediately.

Last Reviewed: May 2020

