



**Club policy on taking
photographic or videographic
images at Ballycrann hosted
juvenile activities**

Photographic Policy for Ballycran hosted juvenile activities

Date	Primary reason for revision	Current Revision	Author
10-4-19	Draft submission to executive committee	1.0	MGC
14-4-20	Added a revision table	1.1	MGC
7-5-20	Title and headings in Central Gothic	1.2	MGC
17-5-20	Added clarification around visitor image taking at Ballycran hosted games and events as recommendation 6	1.3	AO'P/ MGC
27-6-20	Added approval signatures	1.4	MGC

This policy acknowledges the existence of GAA guidelines on the taking and using of photographic or videographic images of juveniles at our games and activities. This policy performs an additional role in addressing the specific requirements of the Club.

1.0 Introduction

The advantages of taking, recording and sharing photographs or videos (both referred to as images) of our juvenile GAA activities are well known. For instance, there is a huge engagement and sense of involvement and reward for parents when they see their children's activities being shared with friends and family and it is an essential record of our games. The need to preserve this is paramount in the face of parental concern for the potential negative impact of using the social media platforms to store and distribute this media.

The GAA has published several documents on the appropriate management of adult interactions with our juvenile players, as codes of behaviour. This Club policy supports these codes and acknowledges the contribution from the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit. The objective of this policy is to set out the Club's position within the guidelines of these codes and to provide additional clarification for Club approved or accredited photographers.

1.1 Concerns and Risks

The following bullet points outline the main parental concerns and risks as generally agreed by the one of the prominent child protection bodies (NSPCC – Child Protection in Sport Unit) and the GAA's 'Code of Behaviour – Underage'.

- Unauthorised access to juveniles by adults that have not been cleared by the appropriate authorities.
- Taking inappropriate images either by desire, or lack of experience.
- Re-purposing images taken from our Club social platforms or web sites for inappropriate use.
- Being able to identify individuals, which may subsequently lead to unsuitable or inappropriate approaches.

Acknowledging the concerns and risks above, the broad principles of taking images therefore need to satisfy the following:

- Establish informed consent from both the juvenile and the parent or guardian, where the Club is clear on intended use and outlines the risks.

- Appoint an approved or accredited photo/videographic resource that will follow GAA guidelines.
- Provide appropriate (sensible, practicable and reasonable) protection of the juvenile's specific identity.

The following paragraphs will expand on the principles of consent, approval and identity.

1.2 Consent

Establishing informed consent from both the juvenile and parent means that the Club needs a mechanism that will share the Club's intended use of the images and sets out the potential risks and what the Club intend to do in order to mitigate any risk in so far as is practically possible. The annual registration process is generally agreed as a perfect opportunity to establish this consent. See appendix 1 for an amendment to the Club's Youth membership consent form, which should be signed by all the juvenile members in a family and a parent or legal guardian.

Consent will be based on the understanding that the juvenile will be able, on some occasions, to clearly identify his or herself, but follows the established guidelines of avoiding augmenting the image with a textual narrative that can make the task easy to readily name or build an approach mechanism to the juvenile.

There will be exceptions whenever it is warranted to name the juvenile in cases where their play or involvement has elevated them to a position of prominence or the circumstances warrant additional appropriate augmentation. Juveniles and parents will be made aware of this on the consent form. Juveniles and parents, who have withdrawn consent, will have this right respected, should the Club be unsuccessful in persuading the juvenile or parent of the significant public relations and historical value versus the mitigated risk proposition.

1.3 Approved Club or Accredited Photographer(s)

In light of the specific requirements identified in the GAA codes of behaviour surrounding imaging juvenile players, the Club will appoint a photographer(s) that will have the necessary clearance

from the appropriate authorities, versed in the GAA guidelines and prepared to implement these with care and sensitivity.

Photographers from outside the Club wishing to take photographs or videos at Club hosted events should follow an accreditation process, see appendix 2 for the accreditation form. The Club will be responsible for managing the accreditation process, which includes publicising the accreditation requirement with the event announcement and how to apply.

1.4 Appropriate (sensible, practicable and reasonable) protection of the juvenile's specific identity

A Club approved or accredited photographer, as a minimum, is expected to follow and implement the guidelines from the GAA Codes of Behaviour. This will also go a long way in maintaining appropriateness in situations where juveniles can be clearly identified in team lineouts and medal ceremonies for example.

It is not reasonable to expect the photographer to know that possibly consent has been withdrawn for a particular player. It will be the joint responsibility of the photographer and team management to discuss, collaborate and establish appropriate arrangements on the day.

There will be circumstances where juveniles will be on the field of play and action photographs or videos are desirable. It is the view of the Club, particularly with hurling and camogie, that juveniles are appropriately clothed and the wearing of a protective helmet adds difficulty in readily identifying the individual or re-purposing the image. Under these circumstances, and in agreement with the broader principle of reasonableness within for example, the NSPCC – CPSU guidelines, the Club believes that it is unreasonable to attempt to avoid capturing players where consent may have been withheld for some players on the field. This view will be consistent with taking action shots of play, the crowd and the venue in general for opening and closing ceremonies for example.

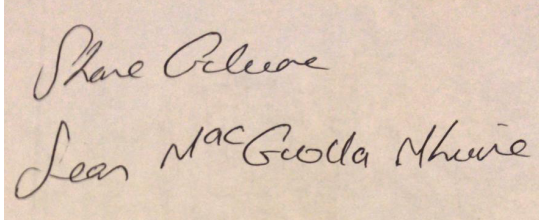
Recommendations

1. The Club will modify the current consent form to include juvenile consent and provide information on the intent of image use and associated risks. See appendix 1.
2. The Club's team management needs to be made aware of the name(s) of juvenile players where consent has been withdrawn for situations associated with 'specific identity'.
3. The Club should appoint a photographer(s) and set up an accreditation mechanism to manage photography and videography at Club hosted events. See appendix 2.
4. The Club and accredited photographers should be able to take action images on the field of play, along with G.V.s and appropriate venue images such as opening and closing ceremonies, irrespective of the general consent status.
5. This policy will not attempt to alter any of the guidelines within the GAA code of behaviour for underage players or established arrangements associated with using image technology as a coaching aid.
6. Although parents will be reminded about the attendance of the Club's accredited photographer at matches and Club events, there may be times when parents will use their own phones and cameras to take photographs or video footage of their own children. Parents attending a St. Joseph's GAA Club hosted event must not take pictures directly of other Club Children. Parental pictures of own children that capture other Club children in the background are sometimes unavoidable but the recommendation is to take all reasonable steps to avoid this.

Photographic Policy for Ballycran hosted juvenile activities

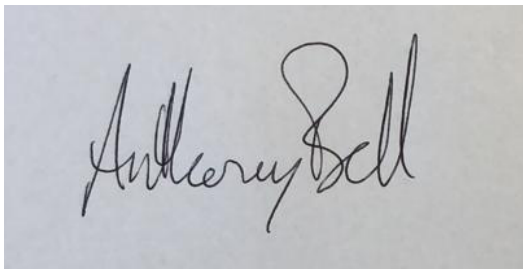
The executive committee has approved this policy in June 2020

Club Chairperson:



Shane O'Leary
Sean MacGiolla Mhuiré

Club secretary:



Anthony Bell

The following forms in the appendices are examples. Please refer to the Club's website for the most up to date version.

Appendix 1

Youth Membership form with photography/videography informed consent



**Youth membership Form
St. Joseph's GAA Club, Ballycran**

**ANY INFORMATION SUBMITTED IS GIVEN ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS AND
WILL BE TREATED WITH THE UTMOST CONFIDENCE.**

Name(s).....

.....

Address

.....

.....

.....

.....

Date of Birth/...../.....

Parent/Guardian Contact details

Parental/Guardian email (preferable).....

.....

**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY the following details would be
appreciated**

Name of Family Doctor

Practice Phone Number.....

Known Medical Conditions

Please turn over for the photographic consent form

Youth member and photo consent v1.3



**Photographic Consent Form
St. Joseph's GAA Club, Ballycran**

Ballycran feels it is important to recognise the participation, achievements and successes of our youth and the Club as a whole. One of the ways to do this is to publish photographs and details of achievements in our Facebook, website and various other communication channels such as the local press.

Ballycran will use approved and/or accredited photographers that are knowledgeable on and implement the GAA codes of behaviour for underage players. We aim to avoid specifically identifying juveniles unless we feel that the occasion warrants the additional exposure, which will be managed according to the GAA codes of behaviour for underage players. By appointing approved/accredited photographers, the Club wishes to mitigate the risks and concerns that parents/guardians might have associated with publishing to the public domain, such as providing a convenient means to build an inappropriate approach from adults towards our juveniles, inappropriate pictures being taken and the inappropriate re-purposing of some images.

Our duty to safeguard young members is paramount. We take the issue of child safety very seriously. We therefore request your consent for your child/children's image to be used within the context set out above. If there is any change in your decision then please inform the Club or team management at your earliest convenience.

I give my informed consent for Ballycran to capture, store and use images of the children named below, where they are involved in Club activities, in accordance with the GAA code of behaviour for underage players. I am the parent or legal guardian.

Name(s) of child/children **AND** their signature

.....
.....
.....
.....

Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date/...../.....

Appendix 2

Accreditation form for Ballycran hosted activities



Accreditation for St. Joseph's GAA Club, Ballycran hosted GAA activities

Name of applicant:

Address of applicant:

Access NI (or equivalent authority) certificate number:

Contact number:

Email address:

Intended use of captured images:

I accept that consent from the Club to take images (photographic or videographic) will constrain me to use these images for the purposes stated above and in line with the guidelines contained within the GAA codes of behaviour applicable to underage players.

I know not of any Policing conviction or investigation, past or present related to myself with regards to accusations of unsuitable or inappropriate involvement with juveniles (under 18).

Signature:

Accreditation for taking photos or video images v1.0

References

Our Games Our Code – Code of practice in youth sport when working with underage players (authored by the GAA, now superseded)

Code of Behaviour – Underage (Joint authored by the GAA and additional associations and councils)

NSPCC – CPSU Briefings ‘Photographing and Filming Children in Sport’

Social Media Policy and Guidelines (authored by the GAA)