

The BHS is keen to promote positive images of young people taking part in equestrian sport and is not preventing photography or videoing at events. However, organisers and club officials must ensure proper safeguards are in place and remember:

- Welfare of children is paramount
- Children and parents/carers must give permission for the images to be taken
- Children and parents/carers have the right to decide how their image is used

There is a potential risk posed to young children through the use of photographs on websites and publications. There is evidence in sport in general to show that photographs have been:

- Used to identify children which places them at risk from those who wish to groom children for abuse
- Used or adapted and placed on child pornography sites

Organisers should ensure:

- Children and parents should be made aware that a photographer will be present
- Consent should be given from both parties on the event parental consent form
- A clear reporting procedure is available should a concern arise, this should be communicated to parents and children

For these reasons, the following guidelines for children's events have been drawn up:

Professional photographers/filming/video operators wishing to attend BHS events must:

- Be given a clear brief
- Wear identification
- Not be given unsupervised access to competitors
- Not be allowed to take photos outside the event (e.g. a child's home or school).

Any other spectators (e.g. amateur photographers, parents) wishing to film or take photographs using any form of telephoto lens must:

- Register their name and address at the designated point or wear recognised identification i.e. Armband

Guidance on the use of photography and video

Videoring as a Training aid: there is no intention to prevent the use of video equipment as a legitimate training aid. However, riders and their parents should be aware that this is a part of the training programme and care should be taken in the storing of such films.

In any promotional material or publication:

- Consideration should be given to using images, models and illustrations rather than photographs
- Only images of suitably dressed riders should be used (focus on the activity not a particular child; avoid full face and body shots)
- Permission should be sought in writing from riders (and their parents) before using their image
- Remember that if the young person is named, do not include a photograph; if a photograph is used, do not name the young person
- Group Photos: It should be noted that responsible newspapers/publications are now publishing the names of children in group photography in alphabetical order, not in the traditional 'left to right' way. Therefore making identification harder. Event organisers should adopt this practice when dealing with all publicity.

Report any concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography to the event organiser immediately and as soon as possible to the BHS Safeguarding Team safeguarding@bhs.org.uk or 02476 840746

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