



**Crusaders Rugby Union
Football Club
Photography Policy**

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Introduction

Crusaders Rugby Union Football Club and the RFU positively encourage parents and spectators to take photographs of participants involved in rugby to celebrate the ethos and spirit of the game.

However, there may be circumstances where taking a photograph might not be acceptable. Any photograph (digital or printed) which is produced and released into the public domain may be misused by anyone as once this has been done, control has been lost.

Crusaders Rugby Union Football Club's photography policy derives from the RFU's policy and should be read and implemented alongside the Club's Safeguarding and Social Media Policies.

Signed:

Mr Justin Williams
Club Chairperson

Miss Natalie Eccles
Club Secretary

Mrs Jenna Keyes
Safeguarding Officer

Dated:

Purpose

The intention of this photography policy is not to prevent photographs being taken for legitimate purposes. Instead, this policy is in place to ensure that care is taken when placing photographic images on the Club's website, social media and promotional material so that no child is put at risk as a result.

Circumstances of photography/video

Photographs/videos of youth players are usually taken in the following contexts. This list is not exhaustive.

- **Coaching:** Video may be filmed and used thereafter for coaching purposes
- **Action photographs:** general photographs of players during a game
- **Team photographs:** posed group photographs of teams
- **Award and ceremonies**
- **Press coverage:** local, national and specialist rugby media/video
- **Tours, festivals and away fixtures:** at other clubs and grounds which will be subject to the host Clubs policy permission

All parents/carers are asked to indicate on registration forms if they do not consent to the taking and use of photographs/videos featuring their children throughout the season. If consent is not withheld, the parent/carer permission continues throughout the season, terminating at its conclusion, unless the parent/carer notifies an official including the Safeguarding Officer, in writing, of a change of mind.

Principles

- **Permission:** Every parent or carer has the option to decline permission for the taking and publication of images/videos of a young person in their care. The Club should ensure it obtains parental consent for photographs to be taken whilst a child is either at the Club or away fixtures.
- **Appropriate circumstances and attire:** Photography/video must be undertaken in appropriate circumstances. All young people must be appropriately attired at all times. It is never acceptable to capture any images in changing rooms, showers or at any time when players are dressing. Images should be neither sexual, of an exploitative nature nor open to misinterpretation or misuse.
- **Publication and identification:** Publication should not be done in such a way that young people are identifiable; images should be published without accompanying sensitive personal details such as a young person's name or address. If it is necessary to name a child, the Club must ensure that it has written parental consent and has informed parents/carers as to how the image will be used. This is particularly important when issuing press releases and match reports.
- **Focus of photography:** The imagery must focus on the activity rather than any particular individual.
- **Equity Policy:** Wherever possible, imagery should reflect the diversity of the young people making up the Club's membership.

- **Fixtures and Festivals:** When clubs meet for fixtures/festivals it is recommended that confirmation is obtained from each club that parental permission has been given for all the children participating. If there is a child who is subject to a court order etc. who should therefore not have their photograph taken, this should be addressed before the event.

Use of photographic/video equipment by parents/carers and adult supporters

Parents/carers are advised that if they have concerns about inappropriate or intrusive photography/filming these should be reported to the coach, manager, event organiser or an official so that these concerns may be recorded and dealt with in the same manner as any other safeguarding concern.

If parents/carers or adult supporters wish to take images of a game, session, or event at the Club ground, they must ascertain whether any member of the team has had permission withheld for photography. At any other ground they must also be prepared to comply with the policy of the host club.

In addition, wherever the Club's young players are playing, photographers may be required to identify themselves and state their purpose for photographing/recording an event. They must, if advised that any visiting or host Club's young player withholds permission for photography, cease doing so immediately unless able to come to an arrangement with that player's parent or carer.

The Club reserves the right to contact authorities in the event that any individual refuses to stop taking photographs/videos or refuses to identify themselves upon challenge by the Club.

Photography/Video by a third party or media

The Club reserves the right to commission professional photographers or invite the press to cover an activity. If it does so it undertakes that it will:

- Plan ahead and communicate early on.
- Ensure that the photographer has been appropriately checked prior to the event.
- Require any such photographers to register upon arrival at a Club event; to carry with them at all times, bona fide and appropriate identification which must be produced on request and abide by the principles set out within this policy.
- Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of content and behaviour.
- Inform them of the Club's commitment to safeguarding children.
- Establish who will hold the recorded images and what they intend to do with them.
- Inform parents/carers and participants that one or more photographer will be present.
- Not approve/allow unsupervised access to the players, one to one photography session with players, not photo session outside of the event or at any player's home.

Online Photos and Video

Photos and video clips can make any child featured vulnerable to grooming if information about the child is also disclosed. Furthermore, posting an image on social media carries a risk that the image could be taken and adapted for an inappropriate use.

Crusaders Rugby Union Football Club will abide by all of the following RFU recommendations regarding photo and video images and will obtain consent from the appropriate responsible person(s) before using any images of children or vulnerable adults on its website. Consent request clauses are included in the registration form which is completed each season and are also held by the Club age group administrators.

RFU Recommendations:

- Use group images, rather than individual images
- For images of individual children (such as action shots) where possible use models or illustrations
- Only use images of children in suitable dress, to minimise the risk of inappropriate adaption of the image
- If a child is named on the site, do not include an image (individual or group). If a child features in an image on the site, do not use the child's first name or last name, either in text on the site or in the image file name.

Administrators must take all best efforts to ensure privacy of players etc. especially when injuries occur. Videos/photos of injuries should not appear on official sites without express consent of the individual.

Administrators of club official accounts must be aware that any content (photos or film) posted on social media passes on ownership of the material to the social media providers e.g., Facebook. Therefore, caution must be extended in passing on rights over club material (of value) to a third party.

Administrators will not download/copy/redistribute photographs from social media that do not belong to them, permission must be agreed in writing before using photographs in this way. Any content shared from online environments will link and/or credit the original source of the content.

Webcams and Live Image Streams

Crusaders Rugby Union Football Club will not use webcams to stream live images of children or vulnerable adults and if use of a webcam to broadcast images of children or vulnerable adults is required, the Safeguarding Officer at the Club will contact the RFU for further guidance before permission is granted.

Mobile and Online Communication with Children

There are now many different ways for people to communicate. In addition to landlines, there are mobile phones for voice, text and video calls and most mobile phones incorporate cameras which take still shots and video. Online communication can be by email, instant messaging and social networking sites.

The risks posed by such methods of communication arise from:

- The privacy, it is often one to one
- The wide range of content that can be transmitted, including content of a violent, sexual or hateful nature
- The ease with which images can be forwarded onto others
- The difficulty in knowing truly who you are communicating with. Where grooming happens, it often involves this type of communication.

In sport, there are additional risk:

- Inappropriate pressure can be exerted by adults, particularly coaches, on children
- There can be inappropriate criticism of a young player's performance
- An official position or role within a club, such as a coach, can carry with it a level of authority and engender a level of trust that facilitates the control of a child.

Crusaders Rugby Union Football Club will abide by all RFU guidance with regard to mobile and online communication with children and vulnerable adults and will cascade any information for them to the parents/carers of that child or vulnerable adult. Crusaders Rugby Union Football Club will not directly contact a child or vulnerable adult directly by mobile phone unless prior consent is given by the parent/carer.

Useful Contacts

Crusaders RUFC

Role	Name	Contact
Club Chairperson	Justin Williams	justin.williams959@gmail.com
Club Safeguarding Officer	Jenna Keyes	jennaeyes@outlook.com
Club Secretary	Natalie Eccles	ecclesna.crusaders@gmail.com
Club Treasurer	Michaela Currums	m.currums@outlook.com
Club Discipline Secretary	David Williams	mcwill13@btinternet.com
All other enquiries		crusaders.rugby@outlook.com

Eastern Counties RFU

Role	Name	Contact
Eastern Counties Safeguarding Manager	Sally Lloyd	safeguarding@norfolkrfu.co.uk

RFU

Role	Name	Contact
Head of Safeguarding	Vivien Rimmer	vivienrimmer@rfu.com
Safeguarding Compliance Officer	Chris Rawlings	chrisrawlings@rfu.com

The club committee reserves the right to update/amend this policy at any time in line with RFU and Government legislation

Jenna Keyes- Crusaders Rugby Union Football Club, February 202