CELEBRATING JUNIOR ORIENTEERS SAFELY

PHOTOGRAPHY & FILMING GUIDANCE

FOR CLUBS AND EVENT PHOTOGRAPHERS

British Orienteering

Photos help us celebrate young people, showcase our sport, and inspire others to get involved.

We encourage photography at events.

We also have a responsibility to ensure images of children are used safely, appropriately, and in a way that reduces the risk of misuse.

THE MAIN RISKS WE'RE MANAGING

- **Children being identifiable** – Clear facial images combined with names, bib numbers, or published results can make a child easy to identify.
- **Images being taken out of context** – Tight close-ups or photos of children on their own can lose the "sporting event" context and be misunderstood or misused.
- **Children appearing isolated or vulnerable** – Even though competitors may be alone during a race, images should still look like part of an organised, safe activity.
- **Unintended use or sharing of images** – Once published, images can be copied or reused in ways we don't control, so we aim to minimise risk at the point of capture.

WHAT WE DO WANT TO SEE

ACTION & ACHIEVEMENT

- Juniors competing during races
- Finishing, navigating, and participating
- Medal presentations and celebrations
- Club and event activities

IMAGES WITH CONTEXT

Try to include:

- Terrain and surroundings
- Controls
- Finish areas
- Other event features
- Maps or equipment

POSITIVE REPRESENTATION

- Appropriate and respectful images
- Images that reflect the enjoyment and challenge of orienteering
- Children participating confidently in organised activities

THINK BEFORE YOU PUBLISH

1 CAN THE CHILD BE IDENTIFIED?

Avoid publishing images where:

- Full names are included
- Bib numbers are clearly readable
- Information could easily be matched with publicly available results

Best practice:
If names or numbers are visible, crop, blur, or choose another image.

2 IS THE SPORTING CONTEXT OBVIOUS?

Ask yourself:

"If someone saw this image with no caption, would they immediately recognise it as part of an organised race?"

Good images usually include:

- Controls
- Terrain
- Maps or equipment
- Event infrastructure
- Other visual clues showing organised participation

3 COULD THE IMAGE BE TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT?

Avoid:

- Very tight close-ups with no event context
- Images that appear private or unrelated to the activity
- Images that could be misunderstood if shared elsewhere

WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE?

Action shots during races | Children competing on their own during an event | Close-up images where participation in the event is clear | Finish-line and presentation photos | Club and group activity images

AVOID

Images showing clearly identifiable names and race numbers | Photos that remove all sporting context | Images that appear private, vulnerable, or unrelated to the activity | Posed images that could be open to misinterpretation

RESPECT PARTICIPANTS' WISHES

Participants must always have the opportunity to object to photography or filming.

- ✓ Respect their wishes immediately
- ✓ Avoid taking or publishing images of them
- ✓ **Notify marketing@britishorienteering.org.uk** as soon as possible if you become aware of an objection

SIMPLE RULE OF THUMB

> **"If someone saw this image with no caption, would they immediately recognise it as part of an organised race?"**

If the answer is **YES**, and the child cannot easily be identified through names or bib numbers, the image is likely appropriate to use.

Celebrate our juniors. Protect our juniors. Do both.

Thanks for helping us keep photography safe, appropriate, and enjoyable for everyone.