

Safeguarding Scenario: **Photos of Children at a Competition**

The scenario:

“At a regional competition, someone believed to be another parent is filming the warm-up area where children are preparing to lift. A parent raises concerns that their child is being filmed without their consent.”

Guidance:

Having photography and filming policies and procedures can help protect children from:

- Identification or being contacted for the purpose of future grooming and abuse
- Being identified by an existing perpetrator of abuse
- Images being adapted or being modified with AI and used inappropriately, for example to blackmail children, families or organisations
- Inappropriate taking of images, or images being used inappropriately

Considering photography and filming processes can enhance the safety and enjoyment for everyone within your organisation.

How it can be resolved:

- Explain the club's position and stop the filming if it is unauthorised
- Request that unauthorised photos and videos are deleted

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Steps to avoid unauthorised photography or filming:

Children, parents, carers, staff and volunteers should all understand your photography and filming policy. Your policy needs to be child friendly, accessible and available for everyone to read.

- Ensure that the club or event has a photography and filming policy, clearly shared with parents, coaches, athletes and visitors.
- Provide clear signage at competitions about when and where filming is allowed, and who the official photographers are.
- Use consent forms for all junior members, specifying how images may be taken, used and shared.
- Where parents wish to take photos of their own child, set clear boundaries (e.g., no filming in warm-up areas, no close-ups of other children).

As an event organiser...



Support parents in capturing positive memories safely



Make clear announcements and signage about photo/video rules



Ensure consent is obtained and recorded for participants



Use accredited photographers where possible



Respond calmly and clearly if concerns are raised



Don't allow unrestricted filming at events or training



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As a welfare officer...



Make sure there's a photography and filming policy in place



Publicise the photography and filming policy with members, parents and volunteers



Respond calmly and clearly if concerns are raised



Don't ignore the issue



Don't assume it's safe just because "everyone is doing it"

Further support:

As a coach, Welfare Officer or Parent you are not alone. Seek advice from:

- [Your local Sport Welfare Officer](#) or national agency for sport
- [British Weight Lifting's Safeguarding Lead](#)
- [Resources provided by the Child Protection in Sport Unit](#)



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