



NHRFC Social and Media Policy for Youth Section 2015/16

This policy is set out in accordance with RFU recommendations in respect of:

Photographic Images

Websites

On-line/mobile communications

Photographic images

NHRFC endorses the RFU view of supporting parents and spectators to take photographs of participants involved in rugby union to celebrate the ethos and spirit of the sport. These images may be taken by parents and spectators to be shared within the club.

NHRFC requests consent from parents/guardians at the initial player registration in order to confirm consent of the taking and use of photographs/videos under the RFU Safeguarding Policy, and extending to the NHRFC Social and Media Policy.

A parent or guardian who has given that consent should note the following key points of the Photographic images part of the policy:

- ≡ NHRFC can only take responsibility for images published on its' own website www.pitchero.com/clubs/newquayhornetsrfc. and approved NHRFC official facebook accounts. NHRFC may also request publication of press releases and match reports in the media.
- ≡ Photographs/images should be of the activity or team, not of one individual.
- ≡ Photographs/images of children must only be taken when the children are appropriately dressed. Images should not be taken or published of children in changing rooms, showers, or whilst changing. Images should not be open to misinterpretation.
- ≡ Parents should be made aware if a film is being taken for coaching purposes and can seek confirmation of how the images will be used/stored.
- ≡ It is not an offence to take photographs in a public place – NHRFC home pitches are public.
- ≡ When participating in away fixtures/festivals parents that do not wish their children to be photographed will need to ensure their children are monitored – NHRFC can only ensure that the child is excluded from their own official photographs – please refer to point above regarding public places.
- ≡ When commissioning the local media to cover an event NHRFC will use an approved photographer in line with RFU Safeguarding requirements.

- ≡ Images of NHRFC players placed on personal social media site pages, and non approved team pages are not covered within this policy document.

Websites

NHRFC operates its' website at www.pitchero.com/clubs/newquayhornetsrhc

NHRFC is legally and morally responsible for the content of this site, which is for the whole club.

NHRFC follows the safeguarding recommendations in relation to club websites as follows:

- ≡ The club must ensure that there is nothing posted onto the site which can harm a child, directly or indirectly.
- ≡ The club must guard against abusive or inappropriate content (photos, videos or text).
- ≡ The club must ensure that personal information relating to children is not disclosed.
- ≡ The club must ensure that any material on the site such as a blog, or comment should not humiliate or criticise a child.
- ≡ This policy does not extend to personal social media site pages, and non approved team pages on-line.

On-line/mobile communications

NHRFC accepts that there are now many different ways to communicate, decisions and up-dates need to be conveyed quickly and concisely. Each team runs their communications by their own preferred method. The RFU provides a series of recommendations in order to maintain appropriate safeguarding standards.

It is recommended that:

(club officials include managers and coaches)

- ≡ Phone communications – club officials should speak to the parent/guardian of the child
- ≡ Club officials should not communicate with individual children by text or on-line at all unless there is an immediate risk to the welfare of that child which can be lessened by such contact.
- ≡ Club related communications should be distributed via e-mail addresses or text numbers provided by parents/guardians. If a club official is replying to a child individually it is recommended that the parent/guardian is copied in on the response. When using e-mail as the preferred form of communication the BCC option should be used to prevent disclosure of e-mail addresses.
- ≡ Club officials should not communicate with children through social networking sites such as Facebook. Club officials should not be friends with the children they coach/manage on Facebook.

- ≡ If individual age groups have pages on social media such as Facebook these should be closed pages and access only authorised through a recognised administrator.

Use of the NHRFC logo is restricted to only those events/communications relating solely to NHRFC and organised by the NHRFC committee/volunteers. Any use of the logo by other organisations or individuals without prior consent from the NHRFC committee is prohibited.