



ESSEX TENNIS

PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE

This guidance is intended to supplement the LTA Photography Policy by assisting clubs and counties with their photography and filming practices. LTA Policy is attached below this Guidance.

RISKS OF SHARING IMAGES ONLINE

Sharing photographs and images of children on social media or other online platforms carries potential risks. For example:

- children may become vulnerable to grooming if a photograph is shared alongside information that makes them identifiable. This includes: personal details; a tag with location information; visual details such as a school/club uniform
- inappropriate images of children may be shared online
- images may be copied, downloaded, screenshotted or shared by anyone
- images of children may be adapted and used inappropriately
- photos or videos may appear in internet search results
- depending on the terms and conditions of using an online platform, the image may be owned by the platform once it's been posted. Platforms may then license images for use by third parties – such as for commercial purposes
- each photo or video, and any comments on them, become a part of a child's public image.

CLUBS AND COUNTIES SHOULD SEEK TO KEEP CHILDREN SAFE BY

- always asking for written consent from a child and their parents or carers before taking and using a child's image
- if consent is withdrawn, taking reasonable steps to remove the photos of the child from public view. It may not be possible to delete or destroy all images that have been disseminated online (such as via social media) or in hard copy.
- only using first names of children, unless:
 - it's considered necessary – such as for elite /high profile child players
 - it's in the child's best interests
 - the child and parent have consented (and been informed how, where, in what context an image might be used, e.g. public website, or through social media, and are aware of potential risks)
- never publishing personal information about children
- making sure children, their parents and carers understand how images will be securely stored and for how long (including how we will control access to the images and their associated information)
- reducing the risk of images being copied and used inappropriately by:
 - only using images of children in appropriate clothing void images and camera angles that may be more prone to misinterpretation or misuse than others.
 - avoiding full face and body shots of children taking part in activities such as swimming where there may be a heightened risk of images being misused
- using images that positively reflect children's involvement in the activity

PHOTOGRAPHY AND/OR FILMING FOR PERSONAL USE

When children, parents/carers or spectators are taking photographs or filming at events and the images are for personal use, it is advisable to publish guidance on what will be allowed in the event programmes and/or announce details before the start of the event.

In the event that a player wishes to enter into a private arrangement with a commercial photographer or videographer, the photographer or videographer must have the express consent of that player (or their parent or legal guardian where the player is under 18 years old) and the LTA recommends that clubs and counties make any such photographer/videographer aware that they should be notifying the Competition Director of their attendance at the competition.

USING OFFICIAL OR PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

If a club or county engages a photographer for an event, it is advised that they:

- follow a safe recruitment process/policy
- provide the photographer with a clear brief about appropriate content and behaviour
- ensure the photographer wears identification at all times
- inform children and parents/carers that a photographer will be at the event and ensure they give written consent to images which feature close up images of their child being taken and shared*
- inform the photographer about how to identify – and avoid taking images of children without the required parental consent
- clarify areas where all photography is prohibited (i.e. toilets, changing areas, first aid areas)
- not allow the photographer to have unsupervised access to children
- not allow the photographer to carry out sessions outside the event or at a child's home
- report any concerns regarding inappropriate or intrusive photography.

*At some events, wide-angle and general images of the event, the site, award ceremonies, and similar may be taken. It may not be reasonable, practical or proportionate to secure consent for every participating child in order to take such images. In these circumstances, clubs and counties should make clear to all participants and parents that these kinds of images will be taken, and for what purposes.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND/OR FILMING FOR WIDER USE

If people such as local journalists or professional photographers (not hired by a club or county) wish to operate an event and share the images professionally or in the wider world, clubs and counties should ensure they have given proper permission for this in advance.

Clubs and counties should ensure the following information is provided to them:

- the name and address of the person using the camera
- the names of children they wish to take images of (if possible)
- the reason for taking the images and/or what the images will be used for
- a signed declaration that the information provided is valid and that the images will only be used for the reasons given.

Clubs and counties should verify these details and decide whether to grant permission for the photographs/films to be taken. They should also seek consent from the children who are the intended subjects of the images and their parents and inform the photographer of anyone who does not give consent.

Clubs and counties must inform children, parents/carers that an external photographer is present and ensure they are easily identifiable.

CONCERNS

If a club or county becomes concerned that someone unknown to them is taking photography or filming without permission, they should ask them to leave and (depending on the nature of the concerns) follow our safeguarding procedures.

Where inappropriate images/films are being taken that raise a safeguarding concern, this should be reported to the club Welfare Officer and LTA Safeguarding Team. It may also be necessary to report this to the police.

STORING IMAGES

Clubs and counties must store photographs and videos of children securely and in accordance with data protection law.

Hard copies of images should be kept in a locked drawer and electronic images in a protected folder with restricted access.

Images of children should never be stored on unencrypted portable equipment such as laptops, memory sticks and mobile phones.

Staff and volunteers must not use any personal devices/equipment to take photos and films of children.

LTA PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING POLICY

The Lawn Tennis Association Limited (the **LTA**) strives to ensure that all children, young people and adults at risk are safeguarded from abuse and have an enjoyable tennis experience.

This document sets out the policy of the LTA for the capture and use of photographic, video or other images at the tennis competitions and tournaments run by the LTA (LTA Staged). For the avoidance of doubt, these guidelines also apply to live broadcasts on social media or other platforms.

The LTA is keen to promote positive images of individuals playing tennis and is not preventing the use of photographic or videoing equipment. However, please be aware that some people may use sporting events as an opportunity to take inappropriate photographs or film footage.

In addition, this document sets out some guidelines for other tennis venues and organisations running tennis competitions on behalf of the LTA (LTA Approved).

LTA STAGED COMPETITIONS

LTA Staged Competitions refers to all tennis competitions and tournaments that are organised and delivered by the LTA (excluding the Fever-Tree Championships, the Nature Valley Classic, the Nature Valley Open, the Nature Valley International and the series of events known as the Trophy Series). Examples of LTA Staged Competitions include:

- LTA Junior Internationals
- LTA Pro Series
- LTA National Junior Championships
- LTA National League Finals
- Winter Regional Tour
- Quorn Family Tennis Cup Festival Days
- County Cup

Official photography and filming at all LTA Staged Competitions may only be carried out by an LTA approved photographer or videographer who should be clearly identifiable. The LTA advises that individuals are informed in advance where official photography and filming will be taking place (usually via the Online Tournament Entry Terms and Conditions). Consent may be required in accordance with the data protection provisions detailed on page 3.

No other professional photography or filming shall be permitted onsite at LTA Staged Competitions, except in the following circumstances:

1) the images are captured with the express permission of:

a) the relevant player(s); or

b) where the player is under 18 years old, the images are captured by the parent or legal guardian of the player or with the express permission of the parent or legal guardian of the relevant player(s); and

2) the photographer or videographer has notified the Tournament Director and/or ITF Supervisor/Referee of the LTA Staged Competition before the start of the match, and has obtained the relevant permissions (from parent or legal guardians if under 18).

For the avoidance of doubt the following is not permitted onsite at LTA Staged Competition:

- Photographic equipment with lenses of more than 300mm when extended is not permitted other than for use by LTA approved photographers or videographers.
- The capture of images for commercial gain in any circumstances.

Images captured by a parent/legal guardian or close family member for personal use are acceptable; however this should not be with photographic equipment with lenses of more than 300mm when extended.

Individuals must not hold themselves out to be official LTA photographers unless they have been appointed to such a position by the LTA, this appointment having been explicitly confirmed in writing.

Where any player, their parent or a coach requests to film their match for video analysis purposes, the following must be adhered to:

1) the images are captured with the express permission of:

a) the relevant player(s); or

b) where the player is under 18 years old, the images are captured by the parent or legal guardian of the player or with the express permission of the parent, legal guardian or team captain (having obtained the parent/ legal guardian's permission) of the relevant player(s); and

2) the player, parent or coach has notified the Tournament Director and/or Referee of the LTA Approved Competition before the start of the match, and has obtained the relevant permissions.

LTA APPROVED COMPETITIONS

For all other tennis competitions that are not LTA Staged Competitions, known as LTA Approved Competitions, the LTA recommends that tennis venues and organisations that are holding tennis competitions only permit the following groups of people to capture images of the players:

- Official media outlets (such as local newspapers) who should be easily identifiable and follow the requirements of this policy.
- A designated member of the event team taking pictures such as the prize giving photos who should be easily identifiable.
- Images captured by a parent/legal guardian or close family member for personal use, however this should not be with photographic equipment with lenses of more than 300mm when extended.

The LTA advises that individuals are informed in advance where official photography and filming will be taking place (usually via the Online Tournament Entry Terms and Conditions) and that consent is obtained from that individual or their parent/guardian to the capture and publication of such images in accordance with the data protection requirements outlined on page 3.

In the event that a player wishes to enter into a private arrangement with a commercial photographer or videographer, the photographer or videographer must have the express consent of that player (or their parent or legal guardian where the player is under 18 years old) and the LTA recommends that tennis venues and organisations make any such photographer/videographer aware that they should be notifying the Competition Director of their attendance at the competition.

Individuals must not hold themselves out to be official LTA photographers unless they have been appointed to such a position by the LTA, this appointment having been explicitly confirmed in writing.

The LTA advises that if a competition or tournament wishes to have an official competition photographer they must follow the safe recruitment process which is available on the LTA Website. The LTA advises that the photographer should not be seen as having an official association with the competition unless you have followed a safe recruitment process. For example you should not provide a photographer with a desk in your competition office / clubhouse unless you have followed a safe recruitment process.

The LTA recommends that the venue provides a sign informing players/spectators if an official competition photographer is present.

Where any player, their parent or a coach requests to film their match for video analysis purposes, the following must be adhered to:

1) the images are captured with the express permission of:

a) the relevant player(s); or

b) where the player is under 18 years old, the images are captured by the parent or legal guardian of the player or with the express permission of the parent, legal guardian or team captain (having obtained the parent/ legal guardian's permission) of the relevant player(s); and

2) the player, parent or coach has notified the Competition Director and/or Referee of the LTA Approved Competition before the start of the match, and has obtained the relevant permissions.

IMAGE AND VIDEO CONTENT

All individuals featured in photographs or film captured must be:

- Appropriately dressed with clothing covering their torso from their neck to their thighs (e.g. a t-shirt and shorts or skirt). Images of individuals in a state of undress, such as whilst they are changing before or after a match should not be captured or shared in any circumstance;
- Featured with people engaging in tennis;
- In groups with other children or adults where possible; and
- Representative of diversity across tennis with regard to age, gender, ethnicity and disability.

When publishing images in publicity material, online, in print and/or on social media the LTA advises thought to be given to the selection of images used. It is advisable not to use the full name of an individual featured or any other additional detailed information, and consent from that individual or their parent/guardian should be obtained in advance.

The LTA reserves the right to ask for photographs or film to be deleted and/or removed from internet sites or social media platforms.

There is no intention to prevent coaches using video equipment as a legitimate coaching aid, however, players and parents/guardians should consent to this image capture and be made aware that this is part of the coaching programme and that material will be stored securely and deleted or destroyed when requested or no longer needed.

DATA PROTECTION

Under applicable data protection legislation, including the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and the Data Protection Act 2018, individuals have a right to object to their images being processed. Depending on the circumstance, consent from the individual or their parent/guardian should be obtained before capturing, sharing or publishing images where an individual is identifiable. Whilst it is not always possible to avoid a specific image being captured, where an individual does object to their image being captured, attempts should be made to avoid photographing that individual and images of them should be deleted on request. In addition, as with all personal data, images and footage should be processed in accordance with the applicable data protection principles, other relevant legislation and guidance.

CONTACT

If you have any questions on these guidelines or their implementation, please contact competitionsupport@lta.org.uk.