



Ulster Schools GAA
Scoileanna Uladh CLG

RE: Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures with particular reference to photography at Ulster Schools GAA matches

Dear Headteacher,

Please find enclosed a copy of a document outlining our policy and procedures in this domain; this is for your information and for circulation to your Designated Safeguarding Person in charge of Child Protection, and to your colleagues involved in the promotion of Gaelic Games.

Please note that we intend henceforth that all photographers at our games will have official accreditation either from their employers (i.e. in the case of photojournalists employed by national, provincial, or local outlets), or from Ulster Schools GAA (in the case of freelance photographers).

The accreditation process for the latter begins with our affiliated schools:

Step 1: Schools may nominate freelance photographers for accreditation who already have Access NI clearance or who are Garda Vetted; such photographers, therefore, may only be nominated via a school; the application and authentication process begins with a school.

Step 2: Ulster Schools GAA will consider such nominations, and will issue authorisation documentation when approved.

Step 3: Any such photographer must make her/himself known to the management of both school teams before the commencement of each game.

Step 4: (If necessary) Management teams should insist on the production of identification documentation when Step 3 above is not fulfilled; those who fail to produce authentication should be told that they are in breach of Child Protection procedures, and be told to desist.

Ulster Schools GAA believes that this process, which involves our schools and the organising committee, will allow us to discharge our responsibilities in this most important area.

Yours faithfully,

Seamus Woods
Secretary
Ulster Schools GAA