

Maroochy Beach Gymnastics



Photography & Media Policy

Purpose

Maroochy Beach Gymnastics is committed to maintaining a child-safe, respectful and focused training environment.

This Policy sets clear rules regarding photography, filming and media use to:

- protect children and young people
- safeguard privacy
- prevent misuse of images
- support coaches and staff in maintaining a safe training environment
- protect the integrity and reputation of the Club

Scope

This Policy applies to:

- Members
- Gymnasts
- Staff
- Parents/Guardians
- Spectators
- Volunteers
- Committee Members
- Visitors

General Rule – No Photography or Filming

Photography and filming by parents, spectators or visitors is not permitted inside the Club facility at any time during training sessions, classes or normal operations.

This includes:

- Gym floor areas

- Viewing areas
- Reception and common areas
- Hallways and entrances
- Change rooms and amenities

This restriction exists to:

- protect the safety and privacy of all children
- prevent inappropriate or selective recording
- reduce safeguarding risks
- prevent misuse of footage
- ensure coaches and athletes are not distracted

This rule applies regardless of intent.

Competition & Approved Event Exception

Photography and filming may be permitted only during Club-approved competitions, display events or presentations, and only if expressly allowed by the Club.

During these events:

- You may photograph or film your own child only.
- You must not capture other children, staff, judges or volunteers without their/parental consent.
- You must comply with any event-specific announcements or directions.
- Filming must not interfere with the event or distract participants.

The Club may withdraw permission at any time.

Strict Prohibitions (All Locations & Events)

The following is strictly prohibited:

- Filming or photographing in change rooms, toilets or private areas.
- Covert or secret recording of any person.

- Recording staff or volunteers without consent, unless authorised by the club in writing.
- Filming for the purpose of complaint-building, dispute escalation or social media use.
- Live-streaming from inside the facility without written approval from the club manager.
- Publishing images of children who are not your own without parent/guardian consent.
- Sharing or distributing images in a way that shames, mocks, intimidates or defames.

Breaches involving children may be treated as safeguarding matters.

Staff & Coaches – Additional Obligations

Staff and coaches hold a position of trust and must comply with additional safeguards.

Staff and coaches must not:

- Use personal devices to photograph athletes unless authorised.
- Store images of children on personal devices.
- Retain images after authorised use.
- Share images via private messaging platforms.
- Have unauthorised online contact with minors.
- Record parents, members or staff without approval.

Where photography is authorised for legitimate Club purposes (e.g. performance review, marketing, competition documentation):

- Parental consent must be obtained.
- Images must be uploaded to approved Club systems.
- Images must be deleted from personal devices immediately after transfer.

Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, including termination.

Media Engagement

No staff, volunteer or member may provide images, footage or commentary to media personnel or outlets without written approval from the Club.

Directions & Enforcement

If a person breaches this Policy, the Club may:

- Direct filming to cease immediately;
- Require deletion of images or footage;
- Remove the person from the facility or event;
- Impose access restrictions; and/or
- Take action under the Constitution, Code of Conduct or HR Manual.

Failure to comply with a lawful direction may result in further action.

Reporting Concerns

Any concerns regarding inappropriate filming, recording or image use must be reported immediately to:

- Club Manager
- via the formal complaints process.

Safeguarding concerns may be escalated to Gymnastics Queensland or Gymnastics Australia where required.

Acknowledgement

Participation in Club activities constitutes agreement to comply with this Policy.

Failure to comply may result in action under the Club's governing documents.

Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed periodically, as necessary, to ensure compliance with legislation and safeguarding standards.

Version: March 2026