

FRA Photography and Social Media Policy

The Fell Runners Association (FRA) takes the welfare of its members and especially juniors extremely seriously. We uphold the UK Athletics photography policy¹ but given the uniqueness of our sport we acknowledge the following:

1. As fell races usually occur in public places, it is not possible to prevent photographs or videos being taken by members of the public and subsequently published, including on social media sites.
2. We recognise the benefits of videos and photographs which allow members to see themselves and others in action. In addition, these photographs are often available to download (sometimes free of charge).
3. In view of the above, we place the onus on the individual or parent/guardian to take ownership of this issue. Individuals who find any photographs/videos on social media that they want to be removed should contact the FRA Welfare Officer at welfare@fellrunner.org.uk.
4. When made aware of photographs or videos which are publicly available against the wishes of an individual or parent/guardian, we will endeavour to remove them from sites managed by us as soon as possible and will request any third party to do likewise. However, we have no jurisdiction or control over these third parties and therefore the individual or parent/guardian should also make a direct request to the site manager.
5. When an official photographer is present at a race, the race organiser (RO) will make this clear at registration. Requests to the RO for not photographing individuals will be honoured, where practicable.
6. Photographs of FRA races and events may be published in *The Fellrunner* and/or the FRA Handbook, which are available to FRA members. Where practicable, permission will be sought from the parents/guardians of juniors appearing in photographs.
7. In certain circumstances, individuals are not permitted to be photographed by law. The only way to absolutely guarantee this is, unfortunately, not to race.
8. We encourage all clubs, especially those with junior sections, to formulate their own photography and social media policies, making use of private social media sites.
9. Further information on the legalities of public photography can be found in Appendix 1 to this policy, available on the FRA website.

¹ document UKA/W30/1, available at <https://www.uka.org.uk/governance/policies/>

Appendix 1: Photography and the law

Further information on photography and the law can be found at the following links:

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photography_and_the_law#United_Kingdom

Key phrases:

- “In the United Kingdom there are no laws forbidding photography of private property from a public place.”
- “Photography is not restricted on land if the landowner has given permission to be on the land or the photographer has legal right to access.”
- “There is no law prohibiting photographing children in public spaces.”

2. <https://www.lindsaydobsonphotography.com/personal/photographing-people-children-public-places>

Key phrases:

- “For images captured in locations where there can be no reasonable expectation of privacy, the photographer does not need the permission of the individual(s) who appear in that photograph in order to publish it online, in a newspaper, textbook or in a magazine.”
- “No such restrictions [on photography of children] could normally be imposed or enforced in a public location.”

3. <https://www.blpawards.org/competition/photo-rights>

These guidelines on photographers’ rights note that “public place” isn’t legally defined and thus may include privately owned spaces to which the public has free access at the time of the photography (which would therefore cover almost any fell race).