

Rawlins High School – Rawlins Middle School **GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS**

The most prominent factor in determining photography guidelines is safety. This includes safety of the photographer, as well as, players, coaches and officials. Another highly significant factor is the continuity of the contest itself without interruption or distraction.

1. Camera flash is not allowed to be used indoors. Flash photography could affect the outcome of the contest or the concentration of an athlete.
2. Permission to take pictures from any area other than spectator seating must be given by the school district prior to the event.
3. Team benches and team bench areas are off limits.
4. Game officials have the discretion to ask a photographer to change his vantage point if the official feels the players' ability to play without distraction is being jeopardized by the photographer's location. A player's comfort should not be compromised.
5. Tripods should not be placed near the competition field/court at any time.
6. Photographers should respect the view of those who may be behind them – such as spectators at volleyball, basketball and wrestling events.
7. No photography equipment is allowed in the following areas –
 - a. Indoor changing facilities
 - b. Team changing facilities
 - c. Locker rooms
 - d. Restroom areas
8. Children are not allowed to be with the photographer while he/she is shooting or filming events.
9. Photographers will wait until the coach has released his team following a game to photograph players.
10. Rawlins High School hires a photographer for special events such as prom and fall formal. The hired photographer and parents of students who are attending the events only are allowed to take pictures at these events.
11. Rawlins High School does not have a school photographer at activities or sporting events. Any pictures taken and put on social media are from private photographers.
12. Rawlins High School does require a media release to be signed by parents of students if their picture is to be printed or put on social network by the district.

Sport Guidelines:

Basketball:

- Photographer will shoot from the baseline (if room is available) and outside the lane areas and remain at least 3-feet from the baseline at all times
- Photographer may not sit on the floor in the lane area
- Photographer must be positioned off the court to allow both officials and players enough room to maneuver

Football:

- Photographers are to remain 10' from the sideline behind the sideline markers
- Photographers cannot be in the team bench area (25 yard-line to 25 yard-line) or coaches' box
- No flash photography can be used on the snap of the ball to avoid a potential offside or encroachment penalty for either team

Soccer

- Photographers are to remain 10' from the sideline
- Photographers are not allowed in the team bench area (30 yard-line to 30 yard-line)
- Flash photography cannot be used during penalty kicks and any time a goal keeper's vision might be impaired by the flash
- End lines of the field can be used for photography, but only outside the box areas and at least 10' from the baseline

Volleyball

- Photographers cannot be in a "live ball area" and must stay outside that area at all times
- Best area to take pictures is the sideline opposite from the team bench and outside of playable area
- Distance is crucial due to the potential for play to extend beyond the court boundaries
- Photographers cannot sit under the net by the volleyball standard

Track - Cross Country - Swimming

- Flash should never be used at the start of a race
- Photographers must stay off the course, running track and pool deck at all times
- Photographers should never cross a running track or cross country course during the race itself
- Photographers may shoot the finish line in track and cross-country as long as they are 50' from the finish line
- Photographers are not allowed in the shot and discus area

Wrestling

- Photographers must remain at least 10' from the edge of the mat, and never sit on the mat itself

Tennis - Golf

- Tennis should be shot outside the fence or from an adjacent court, but never in a "live ball" area inside the fence of a competitor's court.
- Golf – pictures should be shot from behind or slightly-behind a golfer, and stay off the greens at all times
- Photographer must remain quiet during all shots in golf

***Game administrators and officials retain final determination of photographer placement at all events.**

***Administrators and officials reserve the right to remove anyone from events if causing a problem, disturbance, or not following guidelines.**