



**NORWICH FAMILY YMCA**

**POLICY OF VIDEO/PICTURE CELL PHONES  
AND OTHER VISUAL RECORDING DEVICES**

The recent introduction of cell phones equipped with video features poses a potential risk to the personal privacy and safety of Norwich Family YMCA members, program participants and staff.

For the protection of our general membership, the Norwich Family YMCA has adopted a policy to be instituted immediately; the unauthorized use of photographic equipment within the YMCA or YMCA program sites is prohibited. This includes cellular telephones, PDA's (personal digital assistants), as well as all other types of digital and non-digital photographic technology."

As of March 15, 2004 "The use of video recorders, cameras, or any other visual recording devices, including cellular picture phones, is prohibited in locker rooms, family locker rooms, and restrooms at the Norwich Family YMCA facility and program locations. Restrictions in other areas may apply. This policy does not ban the possession of these items on our site, but is restricts the use without proper authorization. Violators will be subject to appropriate sanctions including termination of membership, confiscation of device, and or prosecution."

**Issue:** Most people expect to have privacy in places such as fitness centers, bathrooms, dressing rooms, swimming pools and locker rooms. However, the small wireless transmitting capability of cell phones with built in digital cameras increases the potential of unauthorized photos being taken.

**Facts:** There are 80 million small camera phones worldwide. There are 6 million in the United States with their use growing daily. Improvement in picture quality will speed their acceptance by consumers.

**Action Plan:**

- Norwich Family YMCA Board Adoption
- Notify all YMCA employees
- Notify all members through YMCA newsletter and proper signage through the facility.
- Proper follow through of policy

*Adopted and implemented at the March 15, 2004 Board of Directors Meeting*

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