

COACHES' CODE OF ETHICS

In addition to GA's General Code of Behaviour, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by GA, a Member Association or an affiliated club and in your role as a coach appointed by GA, a Member Association or an affiliated club:

Abide by the rules of GA as set forth in its Constitution and By-Laws.

- follow procedures for enforcement of the Code of Ethics;
- accept any judgments made; and
- use the established procedures for challenging a competitive result, contesting a team selection decision, complaining about the conduct of another member, or attempting to change policy of GA.

Direct your observations and recommendations regarding all aspects of gymnastics to the appropriate persons for the betterment of the sport.

- be constructive with criticisms and direct comments and observations to the relevant individuals and organisations, to avoid gossip, innuendo and malicious comment; and
- respect the efforts of appointed and elected representatives of GA

Represent yourself and your coaching status in an honest and professional manner, without bringing the coaching profession or GA into disrepute

- use your accreditation status and Technical Membership of GA to represent your ability in an honest manner, not to gain unwarranted favours;
- be professional in and accept responsibility for your actions;
- extend professional courtesy to other coaches, athletes and their parents by keeping them informed in matters relevant to athlete's training programs;
- abide by and respect the regulations governing sport and the organisation and individuals administering those regulations;
- be a role model for your sport and the athletes; and
- respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being within the conduct of your involvement in gymnastics

Exercise a standard of care consistent with your competence and obligations as a coach

- show concern for the health, safety and welfare of athletes and colleagues;
- coach within the limits of your competence as a coach;
- follow GA safety guidelines in respect of the duty of care owed to the athlete;
- provide planned and sequential training programs based on the individual developmental needs of athletes;
- modify the training program for injured athletes based on appropriate medical advice when required; and
- provide a safe environment for participants in training and competition

Provide a quality service to your athletes and to the sport

- maintain or improve your current National Coaching Accreditation scheme accreditation;
- seek continual improvement through performance appraisal and ongoing coach education;
- honour the responsibilities given to a coach by keeping all relevant qualifications up to date; and
- work to ensure athletes' time spent with you is a positive experience

Promote and assist in the development of the coaching profession

- assist others to develop good attitudes, skills and knowledge relating to the sport; and
- promote and assist in the education of other coaches

Put athletes' welfare first; making decisions based on the best interests of your athletes' sporting, education and vocational careers

- acknowledge the individual talents and potential of athletes; and
- maintain a balanced emphasis of sporting involvement within educational and career objectives

Show leadership, and support efforts to remove the abuse of drugs in sport

- abide by the regulations of the relevant national and international sporting and government bodies; and
- respect the health and dignity of athletes to compete on the basis of their abilities; within the rules of the sport of gymnastics Encourage, by example, the removal of any form of personal abuse or inappropriate discrimination
- refrain from verbal, physical or emotional abuse;
- refrain from any form of sexual harassment towards athletes and colleagues;
- refrain from using the influence of a coaching position to encourage inappropriate intimacy between coach and athlete;
- refrain from any discriminatory practices on the basis of race, religion, ethnic background, or special ability/disability of athletes; and
- be alert to any forms of abuse towards your athletes from other sources whilst they are in your care

Ensure physical contact with athletes is appropriate and necessary for the athletes' skill development

- ensure spotting methods and philosophy are consistent with established gymnastics principles; and
- ensure spotting is used only to facilitate learning or safe performance

***Disclaimer:** Please note that this information is not intended to constitute legal advice, and is provided by Gymnastics Australia as general information only. You should not rely on it without first verifying the accuracy, completeness and currency of the material, its relevance to your individual circumstances and, where appropriate, obtaining specific legal advice. Gymnastics Australia does not make any warranties for the information contained herein in regard to compliance with Club 10 National Standards.*