

# POLICIES AND PROCEDURES



## COACH SAFEGUARDING POLICY - UPDATED 01/03/2021

This policy document outlines the safeguarding rules relevant to coaches of under-18 members.

## CHILD WELFARE

The welfare and safety of child members is the paramount consideration of all coaches within sessions and club activities. The legal relationship between coach and child/vulnerable adult member is 'in loco-parentis' – coaches therefore have a duty of care over members within club activities. Achieving optimal safety involves adhering to standards of good practice.

## EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

- Always be publicly open when working with children. Ensure that a coach and an individual child or vulnerable adult can always be seen.
- Always ensure there is at least one other responsible adult present at all times during training sessions.
- Care should be taken when providing manual support (spotting). Recognised techniques for spotting should be used.
- Treat all participants with respect and dignity.
- Always place the safety and the welfare of the participants as the highest priority.
- Behave in an exemplary manner and provide a role model for excellent behaviour within the club and at all BG recognised events/competitions.
- Keep up to date with your knowledge and technical skills.
- Do not exceed the level of your qualifications.
- Respect the needs and wishes of all participants.
- Recognise the stage of psychological and physical development of the individual and avoid excessive training or competition.
- Motivate the participants through positive feedback and constructive criticism (without shouting).
- Create a safe and enjoyable situation.
- Maintain a written report of any accident, incident or near miss regardless of the injury together with any subsequent treatment or action.
- Ensure all members adhere to the BG codes of ethics and code of conduct and anti doping policy.
- Ensure all members adhere to the Little Springers Gymnastics Code of Conduct for Gymnasts.
- Do not take a child in a car alone except in unforeseen circumstances (i.e. hospital).

## YOU SHOULD NEVER

- Take children to your home or other secluded place where they will be alone with you. This includes the gym toilet. If a child requires assistance, then a parent/guardian should be called.
- Engage in rough physical or sexual provocative games.
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate behaviour.
- Engage in any form of sexual related relationship with a child.
- Make sexually suggestive remarks to a child or vulnerable adult – even in fun.
- Reduce a child to tears as a form of control.
- Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged.