



# Coach Safeguarding Policy

## Dragons Trampoline Club

### Overview

This policy document outlines the safeguarding rules relevant to coaches of under-18 and vulnerable adult 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.
- Before initial physical contact (e.g. support of a move by a coach) is undertaken, the coach will explain this to the student. They will check that the student (or parent if present) is happy with this before commencement.
- Children are not forced to attempt or repeat a move if they are unhappy or feel uncomfortable with this.
- 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 of BG adhere to the codes of ethics and code of conduct and anti-doping policy.
- Do not take a child in a car alone except in unforeseen circumstances (i.e. hospital).

### You Should Never:

- Run a class for an individual child without a third person being present.
- Take children to your home or other secluded place where they will be alone with you.
- Engage in rough physical or sexually provocative games.
- Share a room with a child.
- 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.
- Encourage other children to bully other children verbally, racially or physically.
- Allow allegations made by a child go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.
- Do things of a personal nature that they can do for themselves, unless you have been instructed to do so by the parents.
- Depart from the premises until you have supervised the safe dispersal of all the children.
- Abuse your privileged position of power or trust with children or adults.
- Resort to bullying tactics, or verbal abuse (i.e. shouting, screaming, physically poke or make fun of).
- Cause a participant to lose self-esteem by embarrassing, humiliating or undermining the individual.
- Spend excessive amounts of time alone with children away from others.
- Allow children to form an inappropriate relationship with a coach.
- Text, or use any social networking sites to engage in conversation with gymnasts. Always communicate with parents (see club communications policy).
- Coaches must not provide intimate care e.g. toileting, assisting with changing.

### More Information

Can be found on page 21 of the British Gymnastics Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy or from your welfare officers, Toni Tarrant and Marie Hodge on [dragonstcwelfare@gmail.com](mailto:dragonstcwelfare@gmail.com)