



Coaches, judges officials and volunteer staff Code of Conduct

The essence of good ethical conduct and practice is summarised below.

Although some are stated for coaches, all MKTDA Coaches, Judges, Officials and Volunteers must adhere to the following guidelines, alongside the MKTDA coaches where appropriate:-

- Coaches must check equipment before use.
- Coaches are to provide a 'safe' training environment for all gymnasts.
- All MKTDA staff should develop an appropriate working relationship with gymnasts and their families based on mutual trust and respect.
- Coaches are expected to act in 'loco parentis' once a gymnast is left in the care of MKTDA and act as 'responsible sports coaches'. (This applies to all MKTDA staff)
- The Coaches 'loco parentis' role commences at the start of the gymnastics class through to the end of the class, when gymnasts are discharged to the care of their parent(s). (This applies to all MKTDA staff)
- Coaches should hold a valid and nationally recognised governing body coaching qualification and ensure that their coaching knowledge and practice are according to current best practice.
- Coaches must hold valid public liability insurance through British Gymnastics.
- Coaches and MKTDA staff must ensure that their BG membership is up to date.
- Coaches must place the wellbeing and safety of the gymnast above the development of performance. They should follow all guidelines set down by British Gymnastics and MKTDA.
- Coaches must encourage and guide gymnasts to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Coaches must ensure the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the gymnast.
- Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with gymnasts exactly what is expected of them and what gymnasts are entitled to expect of their coach.
- Coaches should consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Coaches should not wear jewellery/watches at a competitive event.
- Coaches must ensure that appropriate and responsible supervision is provided for all gymnasts who may be required to leave the training area.
- Coaches must make themselves known to parents of new gymnasts to ensure that gymnasts only leave the training venue with a known face.
- Coaches must never give a gymnast a lift home unless another gymnast or adult is present.
- Coaches are to ensure that gymnasts are fit to train and are to not promote continued training for an injured gymnast.
- Coaches must report any incidents, referrals or disclosures immediately, following the appropriate guidelines set out in the BG Child Protection Policy.
- Coaches must ensure that confidential information is not divulged unless with the express approval of the individual concerned.
- All MKTDA staff will be guided by and follow British Gymnastics policies relating to gymnast safety, safeguarding and code of conducts.

By attending any MKTDA session or any competition, you are agreeing to abide by the code of conduct.