MOMENTUM GYMNASTICS CLUB

Online Safety and Social Media Policy

MOMENTUM GYMNASTICS wants everyone to stay safe online, whether that's through club communications, social media, or online coaching. This policy sets out how the club and its coaches communicate online, and what we expect from members.

Coach and participant communication

- Coaches must not contact participants directly on personal social media, messaging apps or by phone or text. All communication with a participant under 18 is through their parent or carer, or an official club channel (see below).
- Any official club group (for example a WhatsApp group for a squad) is for parents and carers, run by a named coach or committee member, and used only for club business.
- If a coach needs to run an online session or video call, a parent or carer must be present or aware, and the session should be recorded where possible.

Club social media and website

- The club's social media accounts and website are managed by Annie Wain.
- Only images and posts agreed under the Photography and Filming Policy are used, and participants are never identified by full name alongside their image.
- Comments and messages to the club's accounts are checked regularly, and anything inappropriate is removed and, where relevant, reported to the platform.

Guidance for parents, carers and participants

- Please check the privacy settings on any accounts your child uses, and talk to them about not sharing personal information (address, school, full date of birth) online.
- Please do not share images of other people's children on your own social media without their parent or carer's agreement.
- If your child receives an inappropriate message, contact or image from anyone connected with the club, please tell the Welfare Officer straight away.

Reporting a concern

Any online safeguarding concern, including inappropriate contact, cyberbullying, or a coach or volunteer breaching this policy, must be reported to the Welfare Officer immediately, in line with the Safeguarding Policy. Concerns about serious harm or illegal content should also be reported to the police or the relevant platform, and CEOP (ceop.police.uk) for concerns about online sexual abuse.

Related documents and review

This policy should be read with the Safeguarding Policy, the Coaches and Officials Code of Conduct, and the Photography and Filming Policy. It will be reviewed at least once a year.