**Code of Conduct for Parents and Carers**

Wansbeck Gymnastics and Trampolining Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that gymnasts, coaches, and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with the

Chair Vici Richardson via waitinglistwansbeckgtc@gmail.com or Maria Farrow-Tait on [welfareofficerwgtc@gmail.com](mailto:welfareofficerwgtc@gmail.com)

Gymnastics should offer a positive experience for children and young people and where they can learn new skills in a safe and positive environment.

As a member of Wansbeck Gymnastics and Trampolining Club you are expected to abide by the following code of conduct:

# Welfare

* Never force your child to take part in sport.
* Support your child’s involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.​
* Keep the club informed if your child is ill, injured, or unable to attend sessions.
* Always ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the activity and has plenty to drink.
* Ensure your child is fit and well to participate in activity.
* Never punish or belittle a child for poor performance or making mistakes.
* New Parents/Guardians please ensure you attend a coach briefing at the start of your first session.
* Due to Health and Safety requirements no parents or carers are allowed on the gym floor unless it is for planned events.
* Parents/Guardians are required to ensure that if their child is under 11 that they arrive at the gym on time with a known responsible adult and supervised until they enter the gym with the staff, then are promptly collected at the end of a session with a known responsible adult.
* Children 11 and over can make their own way in and out of the gym. It is the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place. However, we do not encourage children to make their own way to the gym or back home if your child is allowed to leave by themeselves please make the coaching staff aware.
* Coaches are responsible for your child only when the class commences, you are to collect your child immediately after which is when the coach’s responsibility ends.
* If you are going to be late to collect your child, please contact the lead coach as soon as possible.
* Please do not put photographs of other gymnasts on your social media unless you have their parent/guardian consent. See our social media policy for further details.
* No video or photography is allowed within the gym unless specific permission is given.

# Behaviour

* Encourage your child to learn the rules and participate within them.
* Discourage challenging /arguing with officials.
* Publicly accept officials’ decisions /judgements.
* Help your child to recognise good performances not just results.
* Set a good example by recognising good sportsmanship and applauding the good performances of all.
* Always use correct and proper language. Your behaviour and language should always be appropriate in the presence of children and in keeping with our community ethos.
* Set a good example by your own conduct, behaviour, and appearance.
* Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
* Parents and gymnasts must recognise that clubs are organised and managed in different ways. Parents should not, at any time, compare either positively or critically the training, coaches, or volunteers of any other club, either in person or on social media and should not encourage their children to do so.
* As parent or carer of a competitive gymnast you will be asked at times to support by volunteering. Entry criteria for clubs often requires the club to submit volunteers to help at the competition, you will get free entry and lunch. If you are unable to commit to volunteering this may impact on the opportunity for your child to be entered into events.

# Communication

* Endeavour to establish good communications with the club, coaches, and officials for the benefit of all at both clubs.
* Share any concerns or complaints about any aspect of the club through the approved channels. See our complaints policy for further details.
* Do not use social media to criticise the club, British Gymnastics, individual coaches, other parents, or children. See our social media policy for further details.

**Club Procedures**

* Ensure fees are paid on time in line with the payment policy.
* Ensure you complete and return a gymnast's detail form and that the Head Coach is made aware of any changes to contact details or circumstances.
* Ensure that your child’s British Gymnastic insurance is paid by their second session and then renewed on time when prompted the following year.
* All decisions made by the coaching team will purely be based upon ability and the gymnasts needs.

# Parents of Competitive Gymnasts only

* WGTC Club leotards and club kit must be worn by competitors at all competitions.
* In the event where multi discipline competitions clash you must communicate with both head coaches to discuss which competition should be entered.
* You must not cross onto the competition floor or attempt to communicate with your gymnast during their competition performance period, in some cases this may lead to disqualification of your child.
* In an emergency contact an official at the competition check in desk who will approach your gymnast’s coach.
* Do not approach judges or officials with any queries, all queries should be recognised and dealt with by the coach, approaches to judges may lead to the disqualification of your child.
* Please let the coaches do their job of coaching your child at competition, do not shout instructions over to them.
* Be supportive, when they have a bad competition help them overcome their disappointment do not berate them about what they have done wrong.
* Competition entry forms require us to submit judges and volunteers so please be prepared to help out on occasions. The more helpers and volunteers we have, the lighter the workload.

The club reserves the right to exclude a gymnast where a serious breach or continuous breach of conduct has occurred in line with our Disciplinary Procedure.

**Disciplinary Procedure**

Disruptive or threatening behaviour of any kind is unacceptable within the club and this extends to social media. It will not be tolerated. General misbehaviour will be addressed by the coach and reported verbally to the designated person. More serious or persistent misbehaviour may result in disciplinary action and potentially dismissal from the club. Parents will be informed at all stages.

Wansbeck Gymnastics and Trampolining Club operate a 3 Strikes discipline policy

1. Any gymnast, parent or carer failing to meet our behaviour standards outlined in the code of conduct will receive a verbal warning.
2. If the behaviour continues, a written warning will be issued and recorded by the club.
3. If the written warning or continued verbal warnings have no effect, the gymnast will be suspended or expelled from the club at the discretion of the centre manager/club committee.

Disciplinary action can be appealed to the Head Coach with final decisions taken by the Board of Directors.

Any disciplinary action will be carried out in accordance with British Gymnastics policy and the clubs Complaints and Grievance policy.