

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS

Parents are asked to abide by the following Code of Conduct. This has been designed to help ensure that all of our participants and visitors have a positive experience and that the atmosphere at the club is a positive and friendly one and that a strong "team spirit" is established which includes everyone involved with Harefield Gymnastics.

Parents will: -

- Ensure that their child attends their class on time
- Ensure that their child is dressed properly for their class (has no loose clothing, long hair tied back and is not wearing any jewellery)
- Do their best to encourage their child to abide by the Code of Conduct for Gymnasts
- Ensure that their child has an adequate supply of an appropriate drink to last the duration of their class, particularly in hot weather (Squad gymnasts)
- Remind their child of the importance of listening to and following the instructions of their coaches
- Inform a coach of any disability, injury or ailment which may affect their child's performance or safety in the gymnasium, or the safety of others
- Be a positive role model for their child by encouraging sportsmanship, showing courtesy, respect and support for all gymnasts, coaches, officials and spectators
- Teach their child that doing one's best is more important than winning
- Emphasise skill development and learning to their child, over winning
- Respect the officials and their authority during competitions

Parents will not: -

- Force their child to participate in gymnastics against their will over a prolonged period of time
- Use alcohol, tobacco or drugs at training sessions or during competition
- Engage in any negative, unsportsmanlike conduct
- Ridicule or shout at their child or any other child for making a mistake or losing a competition
- Discuss, question or confront coaches during a training session or competition (instead parents should speak to the coach with any queries at an appropriate and mutually agreed time and place)
- Ever instruct their child not to listen to a particular coach or suggest that a coach is wrong
- Attempt to communicate with their child or another child during a training session (including during meal or drink breaks) except in the case of an emergency
- Coach their child or any other child during training sessions, at competitions or at home. This deserves a whole section of its own!

Harefield Gymnastics also believes that a healthy, balanced and happy child will have a clear divide between gymnastics and home life with no overlap. A child needs to feel that their parents will be equally proud of them irrespective of how well their training went or the results of a competition. Parents are therefore discouraged from becoming overly involved in the intricacies of their child's training. The gymnast needs to receive their gymnastics instruction from one source - their coach