

EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS POLICY

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

This policy outlines the expectations and responsibilities for all gymnasts, coaches, staff, judges, volunteers, and spectators at North Harbour Gymnastics (NHG) events—both in-house and externally hosted. It aims to ensure a safe, respectful, and supportive environment for all, while upholding the values and reputation of NHG.

1. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

a. In-House Events

- 1) NHG gymnasts may be invited to participate in internal events such as club competitions, fun meets, or showcases.
- 2) Entry for Performance and Squad gymnasts are subject to coach approval based on skill readiness, commitment, and behaviour.
- 3) All entry forms and applicable fees must be submitted by the specified deadlines.
- 4) Gymnasts may be declined entry into events or competitions if:
 - a) Membership or term fees are outstanding
 - b) Behavioural expectations have not been met

b. External Events

- 1) Participation in external competitions is by coach invitation and based on readiness, training attendance, and competition goals.
- 2) Gymnasts may be declined entry into events or competitions if:
 - a) Membership or term fees are outstanding
 - b) Behavioural expectations have not been met
- 3) Commitment to full participation—including training sessions, travel arrangements, and deadlines—is expected.

2. CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS

a. For Gymnasts

- 1) Represent NHG positively at all times through respectful behaviour, teamwork, and good sportsmanship.
- 2) Follow coaches' instructions and event rules.
- 3) Wear correct NHG uniform (Performance and Squad) or appropriate gymnastics attire (Recreation and Extension) as specified.
- 4) Be punctual, prepared, and focused.

b. For Coaches, Staff & Judges

- 1) Act in a professional manner at all times and uphold the values of NHG as expected from all paid employed staff and volunteers.
- 2) Foster a positive, respectful environment that supports gymnast wellbeing and confidence.
- 3) Ensure parents and athletes feel valued and supported, delivering a high standard of service and communication.
- 4) Provide timely and clear information about events, expectations, and logistics.
- 5) Address any issues or concerns in a respectful, solutions-focused way.

c. For Parents & Spectators

- 1) Remain in designated spectator seating areas at all times for Health and Safety reasons, to give unobstructed access to equipment by gymnasts and officials and the overall enjoyment for all .
- 2) No shoes are allowed on the Rhythmic Gymnastics floor at any time.
- 3) For safeguarding purposes, any photography and video recording are restricted to those competitors you are personally responsible for or have consent from a parent or caregiver.
- 4) Display respectful, encouraging behaviour towards all gymnasts, coaches, officials, other spectators and event staff.
- 5) Bad behaviour—including shouting, disrespect, or intimidation—towards coaches, judges, other spectators or staff will not be tolerated. Consequences may include temporary removal from the venue or a permanent ban from attending NHG events.

3. HEALTH & SAFETY

- 1) All participants, coaches, staff, officials and spectators must follow NHG and event-specific health and safety protocols.
- 2) Any injury, illness, or condition affecting a gymnast's ability to participate must be communicated to coaches as early as possible.
- 3) NHG reserves the right to withdraw an athlete from an event if participation may pose a risk to the athlete or others.

4. TRAVEL & SUPERVISION (FOR EXTERNAL EVENTS HELD IN NZ)

- 1) NHG will communicate any travel, travel timeframes and accommodation expectations in advance for out-of-town events.
- 2) Parents/guardians are responsible for transport and supervision unless other arrangements are made through NHG.
- 3) Gymnasts and coaches are expected to remain with the team for the duration of their session, incl. prizegiving.

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- 4) Parents and guardians—and gymnasts who are 18 years or older—are solely responsible for arranging and maintaining their own insurance cover, including (but not limited to) travel, medical, and event-entry fees. NHG strongly recommends that every participant secures comprehensive insurance and considers the event-specific options offered by Gymnastics New Zealand
- 5) For international events, please refer to separate event specific documentations.

5. BREACH OF POLICY

- 1) Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action.
- 2) This includes but is not limited to: removal from the event, withdrawal of future competition opportunities, or a formal review with NHG management.

6. AGREEMENT TO POLICY

- 1) By entering or attending any NHG-hosted or affiliated event, all participants, spectators, and families acknowledge and agree to the terms of this policy. NHG reserves the right to update this policy as needed, with appropriate notice to members.