

## **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 Academy

### **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 - see the General Information Sheet for further details)
- 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
- Emphasize 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 Academy 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