# SANDBACH GYMNASTICS FOUNDATION

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Updated March 2020

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Safeguarding, Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy

# **Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection**

Sandbach Gymnastics Foundation (SGF) operates a safeguarding policy in line with British Gymnastics (BG) Codes of Ethics and Conduct.

The children's act defines a child or young person as anyone under the age of 18 years. We also act to protect vulnerable adults.

Under the Human Rights Act SGF must weigh up the individual's rights to equality and the right to an impartial and fair hearing against the rights of a child and vulnerable adult who discloses causes for concern.

SGF has an equality policy that can be viewed at the gym or on request from the Child Protection Officer.

SGF has strict regulations for coaches and all coaches are qualified to BG levels with DBS certification.

There will always be a minimum of 2 coaching staff on duty at one time.

SGF promotes good practice between coach, child and vulnerable adult with guidance for parents and or guardians of participants.

SGF accepts their duty of care towards young and vulnerable people and is committed to providing a safe place for all.

SGF recognises that in some cases bullying may occur and all coaches and officials are trained in safeguarding to assist in recognising signs of bullying and will take appropriate action, rigorously enforcing anti-bullying strategies.

SGF designated child protection and vulnerable adult officer: **Julia Betteley** is responsible for:

- Lodging all allegations / referrals of such nature & complying with the guideline 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'
- Responding and dealing with such matters, reporting them on to the designated agencies.

All Protection enquires should be addressed to Julia Betteley <u>jbetteley@yahoo.com</u> (Welfare Officer).

# **Photography**

Sandbach Gymnastics Foundation adopts the British Gymnastics policy statement for the use of filming via, camera, video or mobile phone at training and competition or events.

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## Coaching

SGF recognises its duty of care to members, employees and affiliated bodies and is committed to providing the appropriate support and guidance to enable these matters to be addressed.

SGF and its staff owe a general duty to participants and others to exercise reasonable care for their safety and well being in both training and competition.

The health & safety of each participant is paramount. This includes ensuring the equipment and facilities are safe.

The coach must have the competence and experience for the role they are performing. The coach must be fully qualified insured and licensed (if required)

The coach must carry out coaching duties with reasonable skill and care in accordance with SGF and BG codes of practice and ethics.

The gymnast must be mentally and physically prepared for the level of participation.

SGF will provide suitable and well-maintained apparatus & equipment.

Best coach and teaching practices must always be employed.

# **Equal Opportunities Policy.**

SGF advocates that the coach & facility provider must always comply with principles of good, moral and ethical frameworks and exemplary standards of conduct.

SGF subscribes to the principles of equity and is committed to ensuring that these principles are implemented through the following policy:

All participants must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being and their right to self-determination.

Participants will be treated fairly and equally within the context of the activity regardless of gender, age, sex, ethnic origin, religion or political persuasion or disability.

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Equity must permeate throughout strategic and developmental plans.

An equal professional service must be provided for all participants and discrimination through race, sex, or disability must not be tolerated.

Sexual and racial harassment or discrimination will be prohibited.