

Rules & Regulations

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Edition



INTRODUCTION

Gymnastics Ireland is the registered trading name for the company Irish Gymnastics CLG.

The Rules and Regulations are the controls by which Gymnastics Ireland operates its daily business and are set by the Gymnastics Ireland Board in line with the company Constitution.

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1. Membership

- 1.1. Club Affiliation: All Clubs must affiliate to Gymnastics Ireland. Failure to do so would make them ineligible to compete in competitions. Club Affiliation is currently €90 per annum. This fee is due on or before the 1st of September each year.
- 1.2. Each Club shall conform to the rules and regulations of Gymnastics Ireland.
- 1.3. Each Club registered will maintain their on-line membership profile inputting and updating when necessary details of all members of that Club, providing the information accurately. Gymnastics Ireland membership invoices will be automatically generated on a monthly basis and once generated payment must be forwarded to the Gymnastics Ireland office promptly within 14 days of generation of membership invoice.
- 1.4. Each Club shall agree to permit the Gymnastics Ireland to have access to the Club financial records, to ascertain the figures, which he/she has on record regarding that particular club.
- 1.5. All clubs must have a minimum of one Gymnastics Ireland/Coaching Ireland certified 'Level 2' (Club Coach) in the current cycle to qualify for club membership and operate within the organisation.
- 1.6. The minimum number of members to constitute an affiliated club with Gymnastics Ireland is 10.
- 1.7. When affiliating to Gymnastics Ireland, the Club must nominate the following...
 - 1.7.1. Club Children's Officer
 - 1.7.2. Club Designated Liaison Person.

Both of these positions are described in detail in the "Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Youth Sport in Gymnastics Ireland".

For full information please refer to the Code of Ethics & Safeguarding policies in the structure & policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

Failure to nominate both a Children's Officer and a Designated Liaison Person at the time of attempting to affiliate will result in non-compliance with Gymnastics Ireland affiliating rules.

The Club will remain unaffiliated to Gymnastics Ireland until in a position to nominate a Children’s Officer and Designated Liaison Person and will not be allowed to participate in any activities under the jurisdiction of Gymnastics Ireland.

- 1.8.** Individual Membership – Gymnastics Ireland promotes a club based membership structure. All club members must also be registered as fully paid members of Gymnastics Ireland. The club is responsible for the collection of individual membership fees and must settle outstanding membership invoices as per rule 1.3. The current fees are laid out as follows...

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	COST (Euro)
Recreation 4 years & Under <i>(4 years or under 4 on 1st Sept)</i>	10
Recreation	20
Recreation 18+	25
Competitive	35
Student Under 18	35
Student Over 18	35
Joint Members	70
Adult Members	50
GI Supporters	15

PLEASE NOTE: In order to compete in any Gymnastics Ireland event an individual must be a ‘Competitive Member’ and attached to a club.

- 1.9.** Garda Vetting/Access NI - Membership of Gymnastics Ireland for individuals in a role working with our young members (under18) is granted subject to the successful completion of the recruitment process including the legal requirements of (ROI) Garda Vetting or (NI) AccessNI , depending which is relevant to the member.

Please review full Vetting policy on structure & policy section of GI website. [Click here...](#)

- 1.10.** As per the constitution membership categories who are entitled to vote at General Meetings of the Company include fully paid up and compliant Adult, Joint & Student O18 members.

1.11. Membership Fees are due on the 1st of September each year. Any member not renewing his/her membership will be removed from the register of members.

2. Insurance

Gymnastics Ireland Gymnastics Ireland will at its discretion take out relevant insurances to ensure the protection of the organisation and its members/member clubs. These insurances are mandatory, the cost of which will be split between the members/member clubs and negotiated on an annual basis in line with market norms and GI claims history. Insurances include but are not limited to the following...

2.1. Public Liability Cover: Gymnastics Ireland provides Public Liability cover to insure all Gymnastics Ireland sanctioned activities from club to national level.

2.2. Personal Accident Cover: Gymnastics Ireland direct members are also provided with Personal Accident cover in respect of their participation in Gymnastics Ireland sanctioned activities. It is the responsibility of any non-member who is participating, with the permission of Gymnastics Ireland, in any Gymnastics Ireland activity to ensure they personally are provided with whatever insurance covers they may feel are necessary.

2.3. Travel Cover: Gymnastics Ireland provides travel cover for all membership activities from club through to national and international level for members attending sanctioned events outside Ireland.

Clubs participating in Events abroad must complete the "International Travel" form. This form must be signed by the club secretary and sent to Gymnastics Ireland Office for insurance sign-off.

To download a copy of this form visit the structure & policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

2.4. Additional Covers: Gymnastics Ireland, at its discretion, will provide additional covers to protect the organisation as deemed necessary.

For full information on insurance covers provided visit the structure & policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

3. Ethics & Welfare

Clause 2(ix) of the Constitution states that Gymnastics Ireland will promote, through its rules and regulations, adherence to the Child Protection' Guidelines' issued by the relevant regulatory authorities in Ireland and as amended from time to time. These include, but are not limited to, the following policies...

- Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children’s Sport
- Children First Act 2015
- Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)
- Safeguarding Training Policy

All of the above policies are available on the Gymnastics Ireland website.

4. Complaints and Discipline

As per Clause 105 - 109 12.ii of the Constitution, any breach of the Rules (either by members, clubs or any other relevant party/body) will be dealt with in accordance with the Gymnastics Ireland Complaints & Disciplinary Rules and Procedures.

To view the full Complaints & Discipline policy visit the structure and policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

5. Event Approval

- 5.1. For the purpose of this rule organising an Event refers to organising a Coaching Clinic or Training Camp. Prior to organising an event, approval may be required from Gymnastics Ireland. For clarity club organisation of inter-club competitions are not permitted, clubs may however run internal competitions for their club members only.

The Board delegates full approval authority to;

- 5.1.1. Policy Welfare (PWM)
- 5.1.2. Relevant Department Manager or CEO if appropriate

Following discussion and agreement that proposed event is operating in line with Gymnastics Ireland Rules and Regulations, will approve the event. Approved events will be notified to the organiser and included on the Gymnastics Ireland website

Organisers of proposed Events not in line with Gymnastics Ireland Rules and Regulations will be advised that Event is not approved.

To view the full Event Approval policy visit the structure and policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

6. International Selection for FIG & UEG Events

All member gymnasts intending to trial for any major FIG or UEG Event must be named by Clubs on the “Expression of Interest” form and all named participants will be subject to the Gymnastics Ireland Selection policy. There are 2 sections of the policy, section 1 outlines the general policy rules and procedures and section 2 is a technical specific section that is completed for each event.

To view the full International Selection policy visit the structure and policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

7. Board Subcommittees

7.1. The composition, powers and operation of the Board are outlined in the Constitution. Recognised Board subcommittees are as follows...

7.1.1. Hearings Panel (as defined in Discipline & Complaints policy)

7.1.2. Membership Vetting Control Committee (as defined in Garda Vetting Policy)

7.1.3. Membership Vetting Appeals Committee (as defined in Garda Vetting Policy)

7.1.4. The High-Performance Subcommittee as governed through the Board approved Terms of Reference

7.1.5. The Human Resources & Remuneration Subcommittee as governed through the Board approved Terms of Reference

7.2. Upon election, co-option or appointment to the Board and all subcommittees of the board members must sign the ‘Code of Conduct for Officers and Board Sub Committee members’. The Code of Conduct is binding on all members of Gymnastics Ireland who are Officers or subcommittee members. The Code of Conduct outlines how Gymnastics Ireland expects its Officers and subcommittee members to behave. It reflects high standards of honesty and integrity in carrying out the duties as an Officer or subcommittee member. The Code of Conduct must be adhered to at all times and must be read in conjunction with the Constitution and Rules & Regulations. A breach of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action under the Complaints and Disciplinary Rules & Procedures. The main objectives are to:

- 7.2.1. Provide a deterrent against behaviour which may be detrimental to the best interests of Gymnastics Ireland
- 7.2.2. Ensure that the policies and decisions of Gymnastics Ireland are implemented professionally in an objective and accountable manner.

8. Club/Gymnast Sponsorship

All/any sponsorship proposals should be presented to the Gymnastics Ireland for assessment/negotiation and if deemed in the interests of Gymnastics Ireland be ratified/approved and implemented by the Board. Only national sponsor logos may be displayed on Gymnastics Ireland national kit/merchandising/promotional material. Club/gymnast personal sponsors may not have logos identified on any Gymnastics Ireland national kit/merchandising/promotional material.

9. Representation

9.1. International Representation

In order to represent Ireland, or be eligible to become an Irish Champion, a gymnast must hold, or be eligible to hold an Irish passport. In terms of representing Ireland a gymnast must also hold a FIG license for Ireland. If a gymnast changes nationality, and wishes to continue competing in International Events, he/ she must comply with FIG eligibility rules in relation to the transfer of nationality.

9.2. National Championships FIG Level & National Squads

Gymnasts must hold an Irish passport or be resident in Ireland for a minimum of 2 years. It is the responsibility of the club when entering gymnasts for events to ensure that they have checked that gymnasts are in compliance with this rule. Members should note that failure to ensure this is adhered to may result in the removal of a gymnast from the official score sheet and retraction of rank and medals/trophies if relevant.

Foreign Nationals may be included in any team competition providing they are members of GI and are members of a GI registered club.

Gymnasts holding a FIG license of a country other than Ireland are not considered eligible for a National Championships. Gymnasts who have dual nationality and who have competed as a senior or junior for any other FIG registered country can enter to compete only as a guest.

Foreign teams or individuals entering a competition as 'Guests' will be required to pay the competition entry fee but will not be formally placed in the results.

9.3. Non FIG Level Championships & Development Squad

Any Gymnastics Ireland member regardless of Nationality may enter and are entitled to rank/medal in competitions and be considered for Development squads.

10. Priority Claim

International Representation shall take precedence over all other commitments for the priority claim of a gymnast. In the event of the same event/competition both Club and Country participate, if selected by Gymnastics Ireland on the National team, the gymnasts can only represent the national team and not participate on the club team in the same event/competition.

11. Membership Transfer

11.1. During the same membership year of Gymnastics Ireland (Sept 1st to Aug 31st), if a gymnast (irrespective of membership type) wishes to leave their current club to join another club, a transfer form must be submitted to the Gymnastics Ireland Office. The transfer form requests that both clubs sign the form however non-signing of the form by either club will not necessarily block a transfer unless good reason is given to the Policy & Welfare Manager.

11.2. Based on the evidence presented a decision will be made by the Policy & Welfare Manager. The transfer decision will be communicated to the gymnast/parent and the gymnast **cannot** change clubs until the decision of Gymnastics Ireland is issued.

11.3. If a gymnast rejoins Gymnastics Ireland in a new membership year and wishes to participate with a different registered Gymnastics Ireland club (i.e. from the club he/she participated with in their last membership year with Gymnastics Ireland), **a transfer form is not required.**

To download a Gymnast Transfer form please visit the structure & policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

12. Education

Education Policy will be set on a quadrennial basis following the Olympic cycle. The Education Manager will lead on policy development in this area supported by the Policy & Welfare Manager and Performance & Technical Manager. The policy will be adopted by the Board and subsequent changes ratified in line with best practice.

To view full Education policies please visit the structure & policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

13. National Events

National Events Policy will be set on a quadrennial basis following the Olympic cycle. The Marketing Events Manager will lead on policy development in this area supported by the Policy & Welfare Manager & Performance & Technical Manager. The policy will be adopted by the Board & subsequent changes ratified in line with best practice.

To view the full National Events policy please visit the structure & policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

14. Performance & Technical/High Performance

Performance & Technical/High Performance strategy/policy is developed and monitored by the HP subcommittee as per the Board approved Terms of Reference (TOF).

To view the full High Performance strategy/policy please visit the structure & policy section of the GI website. [Click here...](#)

15. Attire

At club competitions coaches must be in a tracksuit with the club name identified on it & wear suitable training shoes, as per FIG attire rules.

Gymnast attire is as per FIG attire rules.

International – National attire must be worn for competition and travelling, HOD will coordinate and FIG rules must apply.

Judges attire as per FIG Guidelines. In relation to female judges heels are not permitted on the floor or equipment.

Other officials are required to dress appropriately and wear appropriate footwear for the floor surface of the venue.

National team attire must not be worn at national/regional events. National team attire is to be worn only for international duty.

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