

# Club Code of Conduct

## For members and their parents, carers and supporters

This code of Conduct complements the Codes of Practice and stated welfare policies of British Gymnastics, and has been written to reflect the particular character of Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club. These rules may be amended from time to time at the discretion of the Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club Trustees. All changes will be publicised to members.

Members and their families are therefore requested to communicate breaches of conduct to the Trustees, where misconduct could, in the first instance, be dealt with quickly and informally. Serious, or repeated breaches of conduct would require a formal **disciplinary procedure**. Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club is a community-focused club with the intention of enabling members to make the most of what we offer, but not at the expense of others.

If anyone linked to Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club has a complaint, issue or matter regarding the club that they are not happy with, they must raise this in the correct way. Failure to follow the appropriate procedure and openly showing disregard for the club—either verbally, electronically or by any other means—may result in Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club carrying out **disciplinary procedures** with respect to the individual(s).

Furthermore, disregard or breaches of these rules (including openly showing contempt for the club)—by members or by their parents/carers/families—may result in the member(s) being suspended or permanently excluded from the club. As the majority of members of Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club are under the age of 18, family members should be aware that their actions could directly affect the entitlement of their children to take part in Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club activities

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## EXPECTED STANDARDS OF GENERAL CONDUCT

Members and their families and friends should:

- Compete within the rules and show courtesy and respect for officials and their decisions.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person, be they adult or child, treating everyone equally within the context of the sport, regardless of ability, gender, religion, age or sexual orientation.
- Respect the spirit of the sport, by providing encouragement and support to other club members and by volunteering at club events.
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport and never display or condone the use of inappropriate or abusive language, inappropriate relationships, bullying, harassment, discrimination or physical violence, or conduct that may be construed as unethical.
- Accept responsibility for their own behaviour and encourage all members and parents of other members to do the same
- Ensure all concerns of a child safeguarding nature are referred to an appropriate authority in accordance with “British Gymnastics Safeguarding Policy”. The first official, in this case, being the **Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club Welfare Officer**.

- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
  - Promote the good reputation of the club and never behave or condone others to behave in a manner that is liable to bring the club or the sport into disrepute.
  - Not communicate issues or complaints about the club to other parents or club members verbally or through other forms of communication; but instead follow Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club's specific [complaints procedure](#)
  - Pay all monthly training fees on time; and also pay any competition/event entry fees by the date requested by Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club
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## **ONLINE/SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT**

Any communications made by members or their family online or through social media that refers to or implies a connection to Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club should not:

- 1. Bring the sport, Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club or its members into disrepute, for example, by:**
  1. Making defamatory comments about individuals, Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club, or other organisations.
  2. Posting images that are inappropriate or links to inappropriate content
  3. Be seen to support (for example by 'liking' on Facebook or retweeting on Twitter) a comment or post that would fall into any of the above categories (retweeting a comment may be intended only to make people aware of it, but this is often construed as showing support for the statement retweeted. So don't retweet any comment that you wouldn't post own as yours)
  4. Posting negative reviews or comments about the club on ratings sites
- 2. Breach confidentiality, for example by:**
  1. Giving away information about an individual (such as a gymnast, club member or fellow volunteer) or organisation that is confidential
  2. Revealing information held by a club, individual or organisation in the sport where there would be reasonable expectation of confidentiality.
  3. Do anything that could be considered discriminatory against, or bullying or harassment of, any individual, for example by:
    1. Making offensive or derogatory comments relating to gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age
    2. Posting images that are discriminatory or offensive.
- 3. Comment negatively about an individual that:**
  1. Exposes someone to hatred, ridicule or contempt
  2. Causes them to be shunned or avoided
  3. Causes them upset as a result of disparaging personal comments
  4. Disparages them in their office, profession or trade.
- 4. Make misrepresentations relating to Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club**

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES ON SOCIAL MEDIA USE & ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Social media can be used in a positive way, for example, to make people aware of events, activities or work that you are involved in within the sport and to make positive statements about the successes and activities of athletes, coaches, clubs, volunteers and officials.

Social Media related to Stoke Trampoline & Gymnastics Club may be used to raise awareness of work done to support the club and associated organisations and individuals, or to answer queries people may have about the availability of support, information or services.

Social media provides an avenue for quick updates on training, events and developments within the club.

However, social media should not be used to make complaints about the club. All complaints should follow the official complaints procedure.

Also, social media should not be relied up as a means to get an official response about club activities. To receive an official response, queries should be emailed to [chairman@stoketgc.co.uk](mailto:chairman@stoketgc.co.uk) (or directly to a child's coach).