



Welsh Gymnastics Membership Rules

<i>Approved by (role)</i>	<i>Department Owner</i>	<i>Date</i>
Board	Board	2 April 2023

<i>Version</i>	<i>Summary of Changes</i>	<i>Document Status</i>	<i>Date</i>
v1	New Membership rules for Welsh Gymnastics	Live	1.5.23
v2	Addition of the Support services membership type and introduction of Sport 80	Live	29.9.23
v3	Addition of general rule 3-17 Addition of club role clarification on DBS	Draft	7.8.24
v4			
v5			
v6			
v7			

Introduction

These membership rules (the Rules) are made in accordance with Article 8 of the Welsh Gymnastics Association's Articles of Association (the Articles). Where there is any inconsistency between these Rules and the Articles, the provisions of the Articles shall prevail. The interpretation of these Rules shall be the privilege of the board. Any decision regarding an interpretation of these Rules by the board shall be final.

1. Membership Applications

1. In consideration of admission to membership of Welsh Gymnastics, each member agrees to be bound by:

1. The Articles.
2. These Rules.
3. Any regulations applicable to any specific gymnastics discipline.
4. Minimum operating requirements.
5. The Welsh Gymnastics complaints policies and procedures and safeguarding and wellbeing policy and procedures.
6. The British Gymnastics clean sport policy.
7. The Welsh Gymnastics codes of conduct applicable to their membership category.
8. All applicable **Welsh or British Gymnastics regulations**, policies and guidelines associated with membership and published by Welsh Gymnastics from time to time on its website, and any conditions applicable to their class of membership.

2. The board reserves the right to refuse to approve or renew an application for membership as it sees fit and where it is of the opinion that it is in the interests of Welsh Gymnastics to do so.

3. The cost of the annual fee for all members and organisations except complimentary members, is set each year by the board.

4. Failure to adhere to the membership rules may result in action by Welsh Gymnastics in accordance with the Articles and the rules, policies, and procedures in place at the relevant time.

2. Membership Fees and Renewals.

1. The Membership Year runs from the 1st of October to the 31st of September. Membership is an annual payment that runs for a year from point of purchase. Members will have an option to be able to select auto-renewal or make a one-off payment.

2. Members renewal date will be one year from the point of registration. Where members are not using the auto-renewal facility, members must complete the registration renewal process no later than 30 days after the renewal date.

3. Membership will be cancelled if payment is not made within 90 days of the renewal date.

4. Members who do not renew and pay the fee within 90 days of the renewal date will need to complete a new member application.

5. Members whose membership has lapsed and who were in the anti-doping National Registered Testing Pool or Domestic Testing Pool will be deemed to have retired from the sport

as per UK Anti-Doping Rule 1.4 and must send written notice to UKAD (UK Anti-Doping). If they re-join, they will need to provide both Welsh Gymnastics and UKAD notice as per UK Anti-Doping Rule 1.4.

3. General Membership Rules

1. General membership rules apply to all members of Welsh Gymnastics. Where a general rule of membership conflicts with a rule of a specific membership type set out below, then the rule of the specific membership type shall prevail.
2. Members must behave with politeness and courtesy to all those that they meet during any gymnastics activities. This also includes members of the public and others in any setting where the individual is identifiable as a member of Welsh Gymnastics by any means.
3. Members must respect the rights and opinions of others. There should be tolerance of others regardless of race, colour, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, mental or physical disability and athletic ability or any other status or characteristic.
4. Members must work and communicate co-operatively, respecting the specific roles, responsibilities and tasks of all other participants and the rules and regulations guiding an activity.
5. Members must refrain from unsporting language or conduct.
6. Members must strictly refrain from any behaviour that could constitute, encourage, or incite any form of harassment, violence, abuse or otherwise cause harm. This includes physical, sexual, and psychological misconduct.
7. Members must abstain from any bullying or abusive language or behaviour towards others in person, electronically or on any social media platforms, whether in a private or public forum.
8. Members must abstain from any kind of demonstration or political, religious, or racial propaganda in any gymnastic competition. This includes the overt or covert use of badges, clothing, objects, or signs.
9. Members must proactively address abusive, bullying, manipulative or threatening language or behaviour as appropriate for their circumstances and report any concerns of abuse or neglect of a participant to the appropriate authorities promptly.
10. Members must uphold the highest principles of fair play both on and off the training and competition area and accept the results of competition with dignity.
11. Members must refuse any bribes offered or refuse to be involved in the proposal of or solicitation of any bribe.
12. Members must abstain from any betting activity, any attempt to manipulate results, or participate in any other form of dishonest, fraudulent, or illegal activity.
13. Members must abstain from any abuse or misuse of any position of trust, power, or influence.
14. Members must uphold the values of clean sport and never assist, advocate, or condone the use of illicit drugs or other banned performance-enhancing substances or methods.
15. Members must respect local and national laws, including when travelling to and within foreign countries.

16. Members will be subject where applicable, to anti-doping rules for a full 12 months from their date of joining.

17. The Board of directors or a committee designated by the Board may suspend or expel any individual member who they decide for any reason is not a fit and proper person to be a member of Welsh Gymnastics. Any decision made under this rule may be appealed in writing to the designated committee of the Board within 14 days of such a decision being communicated to the member.

4. **Membership of British Gymnastics**

1. All members of Welsh Gymnastics will become associate members of British Gymnastics through our affiliation.

2. Welsh Gymnastics members have associate member benefits available through British Gymnastics; including voting rights at the British Gymnastics AGM for members holding gold or equivalent level membership. For further details please refer to the [British Gymnastics Member Rules](#).

5. **Club Membership Specific Rules**

Eligibility

1. Clubs registering with Welsh Gymnastics must meet the minimum operating requirements for a registered club and recognised environment as outlined in the Safe Environment policy.
2. Clubs must be properly constituted and managed, and compliant with all applicable laws and regulations. Any beneficial owners must be declared upon application.
3. Any club may apply to become a member club by applying for membership in accordance with Article 8.2. Club memberships are non – voting members.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual fee for clubs is a year from point of purchase. Clubs must complete the registration renewal process no later than 30 days after their renewal date. Membership will be cancelled if payment is not made within 90 days of the renewal date. If clubs do not renew within 90 days of their renewal date, they will need to complete the new club application process.
2. The membership fee structure is tiered based on the club's number of members. The first annual registration fee will be due on the date of the application by the club as a registered club.
3. No club may be admitted as a club member unless the club has met all pre-requisites including meeting the minimum operating requirements and completed registration form submitted to Welsh Gymnastics through the membership system. All clubs must renew through the membership system and complete an annual club registration and declaration.
4. No club may be admitted as a club member if there is any outstanding debt from the previous year(s) without there being an agreed payment plan in place.

5. All clubs must adhere to the codes for conduct for registered clubs, including meeting the minimum operation requirements throughout their time as a registered club. Safe Recruitment is the responsibility of the club.
6. For the purposes of these Rules, a 'club' will mean any individual club, subsidiary clubs that are part of a parent entity, clubs that have been split into two or more operating entities, clubs that have split to keep separate recreational and competitive gymnastics, and clubs that have divided their operations in any way for any other reason. Such multiple entities or operational units shall be treated as a single club under these rules and shall be subject to the full membership requirement set out in rule 5.10. The matter of multiple operations constituting a single club will be a matter exclusively for the board of Welsh Gymnastics to decide.
7. All member clubs' gymnasts that pay an annual fee to the club (both recreational and competitive), officers, coaches, judges, technical officials, and adult helpers must be registered with Welsh Gymnastics annually as participants in accordance with these rules. For the avoidance of doubt, it is a breach of these rules if a club has ANY annual fee-paying member who is NOT individually registered with Welsh Gymnastics. Registered clubs are prohibited from holding additional insurance for any annual fee-paying members who are not registered with Welsh Gymnastics (that being insurance cover during the same period as Welsh Gymnastics membership for which cover relates to the delivery of and participation in gymnastics).
8. Clubs must apply to purchase block bookings spaces for any activity outside of the regular gymnastics' activity. A request must be submitted and purchased each year. Participants who utilise the spaces do not have voting rights and are not individual members.
9. Any club that is, in the opinion of the Board of Welsh Gymnastics, considered to be in breach of Rule 5.9 or Rule 5.10 will be subject to suspension of their membership under the provision of Article 9 of the Articles of Association. Clubs that are in breach of Rule 5.9 or 5.10 may also be subject to termination of their membership by the powers and procedures set out in Article 10 of the Articles of Association of Welsh Gymnastics if it is decided by the board that suspension has not resulted in compliance with these rules. Decisions of the board in respect of these Rules will be final.
10. When individual gymnasts/coaches/officers leave the sport (i.e., through retirement and not upholding any other roles in gymnastics) during the membership period, the club must immediately update the membership system.
11. The board of Welsh Gymnastics, or any committee to whom it delegates authority, reserves the right to refuse to approve, or renew an application by a registered club as it sees fit and where it is of the opinion that it is in the interests of Welsh Gymnastics to do so.

6. **Coach Membership Specific Rules – Gold Level**

Eligibility

1. Members who are at least 18 years of age and who hold a UKCC Level 2 Coach qualification or above (or an equivalent qualification recognised by Welsh Gymnastics);
or

Inclusive

Supportive

Aspirational

2. Members who are engaged in a contract for services with Welsh Gymnastics in the capacity of tutor or assessor.
3. Coaches hold gold level membership status and are voting members of the association and therefore entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote in general meetings.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for coach members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. All coach members must have an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check that is less than 3 years old through Welsh Gymnastics and a valid Welsh Gymnastics recognised safeguarding qualification.
3. All coach members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.

7. Assistant Coach Membership Specific Rules – Silver Level

Eligibility

1. Members who hold a UKCC Level 1 assistant coach qualification (or an equivalent qualification recognised by Welsh Gymnastics); or
2. Members who are booking onto a UKCC Level 1 coaching course and wish to take advantage of any member discounts.
3. Assistant Coaches hold silver level membership status and are non - voting members of the association.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for assistant coach members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. No person may be admitted as an assistant coach member unless they have met all pre-requisites and completed an application online via the Welsh Gymnastics membership system. Where a person is under 16 years of age at the point of application, an authorised parent or guardian must apply on their behalf for admission as an assistant coach member or for renewal of their membership. The submission of their application to Welsh Gymnastics by the authorised parent or guardian shall signify the under 16's consent to becoming an assistant coach member.
3. All assistant coach members aged 16 and over must have a current enhanced DBS check that is less than 3 years old through Welsh Gymnastics and a valid Welsh Gymnastics safeguarding qualification.
4. All assistant coach members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.

8. Activity Instructor Membership Specific Rules - Gold Level

Eligibility

1. Members who are at least 18 years of age and who hold an Activity Instructor award.

2. Activity Instructors hold gold level membership status and are voting members of the association and therefore entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote in general meetings.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for activity instructor members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. All activity instructor members must have a current enhanced DBS check that is less than 3 years old through Welsh Gymnastics and valid Welsh Gymnastics safeguarding qualification.
3. All activity instructor members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.

9. National / Brevet Membership Specific Rules- Gold Level

Eligibility

1. Members who are at least 18 years old and who hold a Welsh Gymnastics recognised judging qualification at national or brevet level.
2. Members who are engaged in a contract for services with Welsh Gymnastics in the capacity of tutor or assessor.
3. National / Brevet Judges hold gold level membership status and are voting members of the association and therefore entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote in general meetings.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for national/brevet judge members is due on the same date each year as their first membership fee was paid.
2. No person may be admitted as a national/brevet judge member unless they have completed an application online via the membership system.
3. All national/brevet judge members must have a current enhanced DBS check that is less than 3 years old through Welsh Gymnastics and a valid Welsh Gymnastics safeguarding qualification.
4. All national/brevet judge members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.

10. Judge Membership Specific Rules - Bronze Level

Eligibility

1. Members who hold a current Welsh Gymnastics' County, Club, or regional level judging qualification (or an equivalent qualification recognised by Welsh Gymnastics)
2. Judges hold bronze/silver level membership status and are non - voting members of the association.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for judge members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.

2. No person may be admitted as a judge member unless they have completed an application online via our membership system. Where a person is under 16 years of age at the point of application, an authorised parent or guardian must apply on their behalf for admission as a judge member or for renewal of their membership. The submission of their application to Welsh Gymnastics by the authorised parent or guardian shall signify the under 16's consent to becoming a judge member.
3. All judge members must be aged 14 years or over.
4. All judge members aged 16 and over must have a current enhanced DBS check that is less than 3 years old through Welsh Gymnastics and a valid Welsh Gymnastics safeguarding qualification.
5. All judge members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.

11. Club Official Membership Specific Rules – Bronze Level

Eligibility

1. Officials of Welsh Gymnastics registered clubs who are not involved, in any capacity, in the direct delivery of gymnastics in any recognised environment through the coaching, judging or supervision of participants except for those holding accreditations below UKCC Level 1 Assistant Coach (or Welsh Gymnastics' recognised equivalent) or accreditations below club judge.
2. Examples of club officials could be but are not limited to, club managers, club administrators, secretaries, or other club members, along with all club committee members.
3. Club officials hold bronze level membership status and are non - voting members of the association.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for club official members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. No person may be admitted as a club official member unless they have met any pre-requisites and completed an application online via our Welsh Gymnastics' membership system.
3. All club official members must be aged 18 years or over.
4. All club official members in regulated activity must have a current enhanced DBS check that is less than 3 years old through Welsh Gymnastics and a valid Welsh Gymnastics safeguarding qualification.
5. All club official members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.

12. Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officers Membership Specific Rules – Bronze Level

Eligibility

1. Members carrying out the role of Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officer within a registered Welsh Gymnastics club.

Inclusive

Supportive

Aspirational

2. Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officers hold bronze level membership status and are non - voting members of the association.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for Safeguarding and Wellbeing officer members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. No person may be admitted as a safeguarding and wellbeing officer member unless they have met any pre-requisites and completed an application online via our membership system.
3. All Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officer members must be aged 21 years or over.
4. All Safeguarding and Wellbeing officer members must have a current enhanced DBS check no less than 3 years old through the Welsh Gymnastics recognised system, a valid Welsh Gymnastics approved safeguarding qualification, valid approved Time to Listen award and attend a safe club induction.
5. A Safeguarding and Wellbeing Officer must not be a close family relation of a coach or an active coach within the registered environment.
6. All safeguarding officer members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.

13. Competitive Gymnast Membership Specific Rules - Silver Level

Eligibility

1. Participants who take part in gymnastics in a competitive capacity, delivered directly by Welsh Gymnastics and any competitions that form part of the national or international competition structure as recognised or defined by Welsh Gymnastics from time to time. All participants training and competing at National Development Pathway level and above either delivered by Welsh Gymnastics or through affiliated associations.
2. Competitive Gymnasts hold silver level membership status and are non - voting members of the association.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for competitive gymnast members is due on 1st of October each year. on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. No person may be admitted as a competitive gymnast member unless they have completed an application online via Welsh Gymnastics' the membership system. Where a person is under 16 years of age at the point of application, an authorised parent or guardian must apply on the under 16's behalf for admission as a competitive gymnast member or for renewal of their membership. The submission of their application to Welsh Gymnastics by the authorised parent or guardian shall sufficiently signify the under 16's consent to becoming a competitive gymnast member.
3. All competitive gymnasts wishing to cancel or end their membership of Welsh Gymnastics prior to their end date must email Welsh Gymnastics. Members wishing to end membership of their club should approach their club secretary.

14. Gymnast Membership Specific Rules – Bronze Level

Inclusive

Supportive

Aspirational

Eligibility

1. Participants taking part at beginner or recreational level.
2. Participants who compete in some beginner competitions delivered directly by Welsh Gymnastics.
3. Participants who are not training and competing at any events as part of the National Development Pathway level and above either delivered by Welsh Gymnastics or through affiliated associations.
4. Gymnasts hold bronze level membership status and are non - voting members of the association.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for gymnast members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. No person may be admitted as a gymnast member unless they have completed an application online via our membership system. Where a person is under 16 years of age at the point of application, an authorised parent or guardian must apply on their behalf for admission as a competitive gymnast member or for renewal of their membership. The submission of their application to Welsh Gymnastics by the authorised parent or guardian signifies the under 16's consent to becoming a gymnast member.
3. All gymnast members wishing to cancel or end their membership of Welsh Gymnastics prior to their end date must email Welsh Gymnastics. Members wishing to end membership of their club should approach their club secretary.

15. Honorary Life Membership Specific Rules - Complimentary Level

Eligibility

1. Any person whom the Welsh Gymnastics board decides has rendered exceptional or distinguished services to Welsh Gymnastics.
2. Honorary Life members hold gold level membership status and are voting members of the association and therefore entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote in general meetings.

Fees and Admission

1. There is no annual fee for honorary life members.
2. To benefit from such membership, honorary life members must provide annual privacy and data consent through the membership system in line with any regulations or legislation in force.
3. The board may in its absolute discretion at any time admit any person who has rendered exceptional or distinguished services to Welsh Gymnastics to be an honorary life member and membership will continue for as long as both the member and the board wish it to continue.
4. Honorary members (except for anyone directly employed by Welsh Gymnastics) hold gold level membership status and are voting members of the association and therefore entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote in general meetings.
5. Honorary membership shall cease (as applicable):

- a. on the date the honorary member ceases their engagement for Welsh Gymnastics in the specific committee role that has the benefit of complimentary membership; or
 - b. on a date otherwise determined by the board.
6. Any breeches in Welsh Gymnastics code of conducts which result in expulsion from the sport.
- o on a date otherwise determined by the board.
- 7.If Honorary members hold another role and are active within registered environments, they must hold the current requirements for that role.

16. Complimentary Membership Specific Rules – Complimentary Level

Eligibility

1. Members who are provided with complimentary membership by virtue of being directly employed by Welsh Gymnastics; or
2. Members who are engaged by Welsh Gymnastics in specific committee roles that have a benefit of complimentary membership for a fixed duration as defined by the board from time to time; or
3. Such other persons as the board may decide in its absolute discretion shall benefit from complimentary membership.
4. Complimentary members (except for anyone directly employed by Welsh Gymnastics) hold gold level membership status and are voting members of the association and therefore entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote in general meetings.

Fees and Admission

1. Admissions requirements are subject to other categories of membership for specific roles held by a member in this category. All other requirements other than fees will apply.
 2. To benefit from such membership, complimentary members must provide annual privacy and data consent through the membership system in line with any regulations or legislation in force from time to time.
 3. There is no annual fee for complimentary members.
 4. The board may in its absolute discretion at any time and from time to time admit any person as a complimentary member of Welsh Gymnastics.
 5. The board reserves the right to revoke the membership of a complimentary member as it sees fit and where it is of the opinion that it is in the interests of Welsh Gymnastics to do so.
 6. Complimentary membership shall cease (as applicable):
 - o on the date the employee ceases to be a direct employee of Welsh Gymnastics; or
 - o on the date the complimentary member ceases their engagement with Welsh Gymnastics in the specific committee role that has the benefit of complimentary membership; or
 - o on a date otherwise determined by the board.
- 7.If Complimentary members hold another role and are active within registered environments, they must hold the current requirements for that role.

17. Individual Membership Specific Rules – Complimentary Level

Eligibility

Members of the Welsh Gymnastics board; the chair, general directors, and non-executive directors.

Fees and Admission

1. To benefit from such membership, individual members must provide annual privacy and data consent through the membership system in line with any regulations or legislation in force from time to time.
2. There is no annual fee for individual members.
3. Individual members must be appointed to the board via the annual AGM process.
4. The board reserves the right to revoke the membership of an individual member as it sees fit and where it is of the opinion that it is in the interests of Welsh Gymnastics to do so.
5. Individual membership shall cease (as applicable):
 - on the date the board member ceases to be on the Welsh Gymnastics board;
 - or
 - on a date otherwise determined by the board

18. Sport Support Services – Bronze Level

Eligibility

1. Persons providing ancillary sport services directly to Welsh Gymnastics members within Welsh Gymnastics recognised environments.
2. Where the individual holds additional qualification, they must take the membership type relevant to their qualification.

Fees and Admission

1. The annual renewal fee for support services members is due on the anniversary of first joining each year.
2. Where a sport services provider holds gymnastics coaching, intrusting, and judging qualifications they should hold the appropriate membership type to their qualifications.
3. No person may be admitted under Support Services Registration unless they have completed an application online via our membership system.
4. All Sport Services wishing to cancel or end their registration of Welsh Gymnastics prior to their end date must email Welsh Gymnastics.
5. All support service members must have a current enhanced DBS check less than 3 years old through the Welsh Gymnastics recognised system, and a valid Welsh Gymnastics approved safeguarding qualification if in regulated activity with Under 18-year-olds.
6. All support services members wishing to cancel or end their membership prior to its end date must email their club secretary who must end their membership on the membership system.



Welsh Gymnastics
Gymnasteg Cymru

Inclusive

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Supportive

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Aspirational

