

SOUTHEASTERN & PGO CODE OF CONDUCT

Gymnasts, coaches, parents and spectators are to conduct themselves in a manner that "Honors the Sport of Gymnastics" and demonstrates respect to other gymnasts, coaches, judges, parents, and spectators. In becoming a member of the gymnastics community an individual assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to the sport of gymnastics and its participants. The essential elements in this "Code of Conduct" are RESPECT and INTEGRITY. Those who conduct themselves in a manner that reflects these elements will bring credit to the sport of gymnastics, themselves, their team, and Southeastern Gymnastics.

It is only through such conduct that our sport can continue to earn and maintain a positive image and make its full contribution to competitive gymnastics in the United States and around the world. **The following essential elements of the "Code of Conduct" must be followed:**

- Sportsmanship and teaching the concepts of fair competition are essential to competing and must be taught at all levels and developed, both at home and in the gym, at all times.
- The value of good sportsmanship and the concepts of fair competition should always be placed above "winning."
- The safety and welfare of the Gymnasts are of primary importance.
- Coaches must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their gymnasts. They are to strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people, as well as adults.
- Coaches should always demonstrate positive behaviors and reinforce them to gymnasts, parents, judges, and spectators alike. Gymnasts should be specifically encouraged and positively reinforced by coaches to demonstrate respect for teammates, opponents, judges, and spectators.
- Gymnasts should always demonstrate positive behavior and respect toward teammates, opponents, coaches, judges, parents and spectators.
- Older level optional gymnasts should recognize they, like coaches are considered leaders in the gym and should strive to demonstrate positive behaviors and reinforce them to younger/ lower level gymnasts and parents.
- Grievances or misunderstandings between coaches, judges, or any other parties involved with a gymnast should be communicated through the proper channels and

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procedures, and not during practice or at competition, unless the gymnast is imminent physical danger.

- Coaches and gymnasts are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates courtesy, respect, and fairness to all parties, including one another. Bullying will not be tolerated and will be addressed immediately and directly as set forth in the Joint Southeastern & PGO Bullying Policy.
- Eligibility requirements, at all levels of the sport, must be followed. Rules and requirements such as age, previous level of participation, team transfers, etc, have been established to encourage and maximize participation, fair play and to promote safety. Any questions or concerns about these matters should be addressed to the head coach in writing.