



## **RGA Squad Competitions Policy**

### **Introduction**

RGA gymnasts take part in broadly 4 types of competitions:-

- 'Club' described as competitions that the whole club attends eg Regionals, British
- 'Invitational' – UK competitions where a team representing RGA compete eg King Edmunds
- 'International' – International competitions where a team of RGA gymnasts travel as a group to represent either RGA or another entity, e.g. Ireland Tumbling, Bulgaria
- 'Representative' – individual gymnasts selected for national team competitions.

The first and last are considered out of scope as generally the club is closed for the former and only the gymnasts are involved in the latter.

Invitationals present fewer issues, as travel is easier, however they are considered here as they require coaching cover to be arranged. 'Internationals' provide the greatest cause for consideration as they require coaching cover and can also involve significant travel.

### **Coaching**

Any competition that conflicts with a normal training session requires the squad coaches affected to work with the Director of Coaching (DoC) to make alternate arrangements for non-competing gymnasts. For the avoidance of doubt it is suggested that where 4 or fewer gymnasts are traveling only one designated coach need accompany and where 5 or more compete 2 coaches should travel. Any exceptions are at the sole discretion of the DoC.

### **International Travel/Overnight stay**

Any competition that requires lengthy travel and/or overnight stays require further consideration from a safety and welfare perspective. For all such competitions it is encouraged that as many parents as possible travel to ensure the welfare of the gymnasts and support the coaches and that at the least 2 adults accompany the group (one of whom may be the coach).

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International Travel/Overnight stay continued.

If only one coach is traveling then one or more parents should be prepared to take some responsibility as chaperone(s). Such individuals should ideally be trained and have CRB check clearance.

If no parent can travel or none traveling are willing to take on this role RGA will fund an official chaperone to travel with the party, who may be another coach or a parent.

In both instances parents/chaperones should understand that they have no competition status and leave all coaching matters to the coach. There may also be times when they are unable to travel with the team from hotel to venue etc

## **Risk Assessment**

It is the designated coaches responsibility to undertake proper risk assessment and complete required paperwork prior to attendance along with appropriate medical and any other forms. This protects coach and RGA as well as ensuring due care is taken.

## **Competition Funding**

Gymnasts are responsible for their own competition fees and travel costs and additionally for a nominal levy. This levy will be used to fund future chaperone and coach's expenses. The RGA will fund travel, accommodation and subsistence for coaches and any official chaperone traveling.