



## COACH REQUIREMENTS AT BRITISH GYMNASTICS EVENTS

### GUIDANCE NOTE

The coach requirements for British Gymnastics events have been in place for some considerable time.

Various feedback had been received from coaches and clubs about the challenges they face in providing the required coaches for BG events.

As part of the work to update the competition handbooks for 2019, the events team has been working closely with the coach education department to review and update these requirements, in order to try and address the concerns raised.

A consultation took place with the Technical Committees in each discipline through the National Coach Education Panel.

Feedback from various coaches and clubs was also considered and therefore we hope that these new rules will make it easier for everyone to participate in BG events, whilst not compromising safety, which we are sure that you would agree should remain the number one priority.

The specific details for each event can be found in the discipline's competition handbook, but general guidance on how this will work can be found below:

- There will be no change to the process where the coach who will be at the event with a gymnast holds the qualification that covers all of the skills of that gymnast.
- This coach can simply be added to the online entry in the usual way. This coach will be considered to be a "Supervising Coach", as defined in the competition handbook.
- However, there may be circumstances where the coach of the gymnast does not hold the qualification that covers all of the skills of that particular gymnast is planning to perform at the event.
- There may also be a circumstance where a coach with the relevant qualification isn't able to physically spot a move and relies on a lesser qualified coach to assist them with this manual handling.
- In this case, if the coach who is on the floor with the gymnast has undertaken the full education course that encompasses the skills that their gymnast is going to compete, then they may do so under the supervision of a "Lead Coach".
- This dispensation is only valid where the gymnast is performing skills a maximum of one coaching level higher than that coach's current qualification.
- In this case a "Lead Coach" must be nominated during the online entry process. The Lead Coach must be present on-venue during the competition, but does not necessarily need to be at the apparatus with the gymnast. The Lead Coach must hold the qualification that covers all of the skills being performed at the event by all of the gymnasts under their supervision. This Lead Coach will take overall responsibility for the safety of the gymnasts.
- For clarity, this responsibility of the Lead Coach extends to the legal responsibility from an insurance perspective and they need to be sure that the supervising coach at the event is suitably competent to maintain the safety of the gymnast.

- The Technical Committee in each discipline will continue to be responsible for determining the minimum qualification required for each competition at national level events.

These rules apply to events organised directly by British Gymnastics.

Home Countries and English regions may wish to adopt these rules, or may wish to use alternative rules for the specific events they organise.

However, these rules are applicable where regional events lead to a national final eg Grades, NDPs etc