

WAG Competition Behaviour Policy

Updated 2/6/17

The following policy has been developed at the request of competition organisers. It has been adopted for implementation at all Women's Artistic Gymnastics competitions throughout New Zealand.

Behaviour Penalties

Behaviour penalties **will** be applied at **all** club, regional and national competitions.

- For senior competitions/championships, if the appropriate penalty to be applied is not specified in the respective Code Manual or Code of Points, this policy shall apply.
- For junior competitions/championships, if the appropriate penalty to be applied is not specified in the respective Code Manual, this policy shall apply.

Definition – the competition floor shall apply to the area in which the competition is being conducted, including any areas used for groups on a bye rotation and the stretch/warm up area.

Gymnasts

Gymnasts must remain on the competition floor for the duration of the competition. If a gymnast wishes to leave the competition floor they must, through their coach, seek approval to be excused from the Competition Chief (Control) Judge or the Apparatus Chair Judge.

- Penalty for unapproved absence from the competition floor – for a first breach a warning will be issued and a 0.30 penalty taken from the gymnast's/athlete's Individual All Around score. For subsequent breaches, the penalty will be DISQUALIFICATION from the competition.
Penalty for late appearance after the green light/flag- the respective Code of Points penalties shall apply.

Coaches

Coaches must

- Refrain from speaking to the gymnast or from assisting him/her in any other way (give signals, shouts, cheers or similar) during their performance, except when permitted such as when the gymnast has had a fall.
- Refrain from engaging in discussions or communication with active judges and/or other persons outside of the competition floor area during the competition (exception: team doctor, delegation leader).
- Refrain from any other undisciplined or abusive behaviour
- Conduct themselves in a fair and sportsmanlike manner at all times during the competition.

Penalties will be applied as set out in the relevant Code Manual or Code of Points

Unauthorised Persons on the Competition Floor

Unauthorised persons are not permitted on the competition floor. With the exception of the accredited persons, no Regional/Club Officials, Coaches, photographers, video operators, parents/guardians/caregivers are permitted on the competition floor.

Making movement matter

Penalty for unauthorised persons on the competition floor - for a first breach the person shall be requested to leave the competition floor, followed by a warning and a 0.30 penalty (neutral deduction) for a second breach, taken from the gymnasts/athlete's Individual All Around score or the Team score whichever is applicable. For subsequent breaches the gymnast or team (whichever is applicable) shall be DISQUALIFIED.

Communication with Active Judges

Gymnasts/Athletes, Coaches, Region/Club Officials or unauthorised persons may not communicate with "active" judges during competition. This includes talking to or the use of text or image messaging.

The coach or the team manager may query a D Score during the competition. These queries must be directed through the Competition Chief (Control) Judge who will be available at the Competition Jury table or on the competition floor overseeing the work of the judges. If circumstances determine that the Competition Chief (Control) Judge is required to be a member of an apparatus panel, he/she may only be approached with queries in the inactive periods, that is, between rotations.

In all instances, infractions will be reported to the Competition Chief (Control) Judge who will action and authorise the penalties and warnings.

- Penalty for gymnast/athlete talking to "active" judges during competition - 0.30 penalty taken from the gymnasts/athletes Individual All Around score.
- Penalty for coaches, region/club official or unauthorised persons talking to "active" judges during competition - for a first breach a warning will be issued and a 0.30 penalty taken from the gymnasts/athletes Individual All Around score or the Team score whichever is applicable. For subsequent breaches the person shall be excluded/removed from the remainder of the competition.

Communication from persons outside of the competition area

- Persons outside of the competition floor are not to communicate with the coaches or gymnasts on the competition floor. Penalty for a first breach the person shall be given a warning Penalty for a subsequent breach a 0.30 penalty taken from the gymnasts/athlete's Individual All Around score or the Team score whichever is applicable.

Mobile/Cell Telephones and similar devices

The use of mobile/cell telephones is **prohibited** in the competition area, inclusive of the competition and warm up areas, unless approval for use is granted by the GymSports NZ Events Manager. This regulation applies to athletes, coaches, judges and all officials/authorised persons on duty in the competition area. It applies to all functions of the device. Video footage from a cell telephone or similar device is not permissible on the competition floor. In principle the Behaviour Penalties, shall apply in respect to all persons. For a first breach a warning will be issued and the telephone shall be turned off and placed out of sight. For subsequent breaches the penalty will be disqualification from the competition (gymnasts/athletes); excluded/removed from the remainder of the competition (officials). In the case of National Championships, GymSports NZ reserves the right to confiscate the telephone for the duration of the competition from any person found in breach of this regulation.

Any breaches of rules at competitions may be escalated to Gymnastics New Zealand and be subject to further disciplinary action if deemed appropriate.