



Club Newsletter

A lifetime of support...

British Gymnastics relies heavily on volunteers and enthusiasts and strikes remarkable relationships with many of its commercial partners.

One of these, in particular, has been with Continental Sports, who have been a supplier to British Gymnastics since the 1970s.

One individual who is well known to us and to many clubs in and around the country, is **Geoff Coverley**, who retires in June after almost 40 years service with Continental.



Geoff Coverley

Geoff is one of those individuals who, for many years, worked tirelessly with the coaches around the country to produce better gymnastics environments for the gymnasts to train in.



Brian A Stocks

Brian A Stocks, MA
Honorary Life Vice President
Chief Executive Officer
Member of the FIG Executive

He was also responsible, along with the rest of the team from Continental, for the delivery of apparatus to our competitions and was a regular face seen on the floor of all major stadiums around the country.

One of Geoff's first pit instalments was at Greenhead Gymnastics Club, where he knelt down to start work and realised he was kneeling in exactly the same position as when he got married – as the conversion was in the church he had been married in!

British Gymnastics wish him all of the very best for his retirement, but knowing Geoff he will not sit down, but we hope his wife Jean can get many of the jobs he does finally completed.

FIG Licence

The FIG recently introduced a Licence, which will be required by **all gymnasts competing Internationally**. Current members who are on the World Class Programme, will automatically be processed. British Gymnastics will announce shortly the means of processing 'International Licence Holders' to facilitate these FIG changes.

UK Sport/Sport England Management Audit

As a condition of receiving funding from Sport England, British Gymnastics is required to complete a Self Assurance process annually, each September. In addition this year, BG was required to undergo a Management Audit, carried out by AHL Limited, who are appointed by UK Sport and Sport England to independently review the Assurance Statement submitted by funded partners. British Gymnastics is pleased to

announce that the conclusion of the Management Audit **confirmed the effectiveness** of British Gymnastics' governance and procedures and its ability to manage and account for public funds.

Diversity – Britain's Got Talent 2009

Congratulations are to be given to the Men's Competition Organisers who first spotted **Diversity** and let them perform at the Men's British Championships in 2008. Little did we know that they would go on to win Britain's Got Talent 2009. I hope we can still afford to engage them for events in the future!

British Gymnastics Membership Team

The Membership Team has now moved in to re-furnished offices above Ford Hall under the management of Ros Anwyll. We see this as a further part of **our commitment to improving customer support** and providing a single point of contact for your needs. Any ideas or suggestions to further improve service can be emailed to information@british-gymnastics.org.

Child Protection

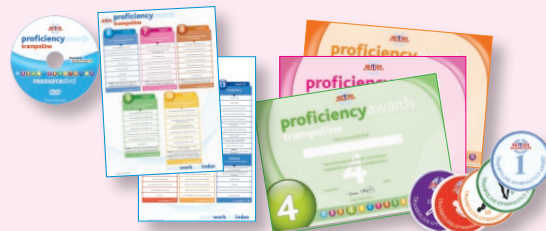
British Gymnastics clubs should be aware that they must conform to **Child Protection Legislation** as incorporated in British Gymnastics Child Protection Policies. Should they fail to do so, they are potentially exposed to legal action and claims if a Child Protection incident develops in the club. British Gymnastics is working with its Insurance Broker, Perkins Slade, to ensure that the maximum cover under the law is provided for British Gymnastics clubs. We advise our clubs to refer to the Child Protection Policy on the British Gymnastics website www.british-gymnastics.org.

Trampoline Resource Awards

A new resource has been developed to support the **British Gymnastics Trampoline Awards levels 1-15** and will be introduced during April. The resource includes 27 work cards (including 4 for fitness), 4 wall charts, an Information booklet and a DVD. There will still be 15 levels but the certificates have been redesigned to complement the new

resource and will be immediately available to new customers and phased in for existing customers to allow them to run out of their current stocks.

The resource also links into the Next Steps Competition Resources, developed for schools and launched in December 2008.



For more information contact: Gymnastics Enterprises Ltd,
Unit 1, Lilleshall Hall Farm, Newport, Shropshire TF10 9AS.
Tel: 0845 1297129 ext:2355

Fax: 01952 822456

email: awardschemes@british-gymnastics.org

www.british-gymnastics.org



Informing our clubs...

Health, Safety and Welfare Policy - Important Change

Following a review of Section 4.7 of the **British Gymnastics Health, Safety and Welfare Policy** it has been agreed by the Board of Directors that the following amendment applying to all BG Registered Clubs should take effect immediately.

4.7 Overnight Stays

Legislation requires that when a club takes a gymnast(s) under the age of 18 years on a journey involving an overnight stay, the club must ensure that there is a designated trained person responsible for Child Protection on the

trip. To adhere to the CPSU Child Protection Standards this person must not be related to or in a relationship with the coach attending the trip. The training for the designated person should be the BG Safeguarding and Protecting Children Awareness Course or a BG approved equivalent.

Previously:

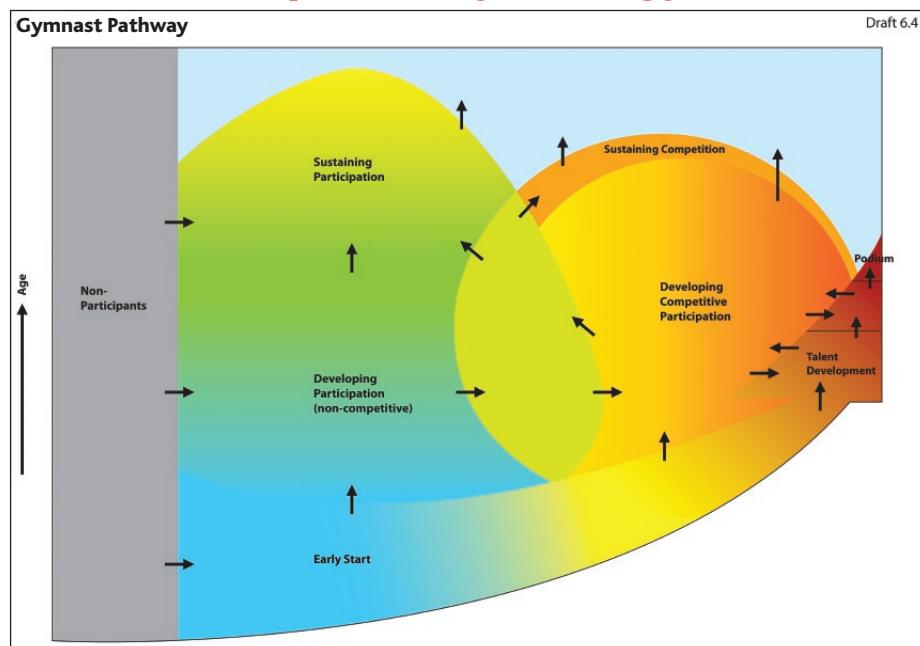
4.7 Events and Trips

When a club takes a gymnast under the age of 18 years away from their normal training venue to competition, squad training, festivals,

or other events, there may be additional health, safety and welfare factors to consider. If the trip requires an overnight stay or is abroad, there are further implications to consider and substantial planning will be necessary. Clubs or organisations should appoint a Trip Manager, who will be responsible for ensuring all necessary plans are in place for a successful trip. Clubs should ensure there is a designated trained person with a responsibility for child protection (Welfare Officer) if the trip involves an overnight stay. Permission must be obtained from BG to take gymnasts abroad.

STOP PRESS
Membership Benefits and Fees 09/10
 Membership Benefits and Fees for the 2009/2010 membership year will be available on the British Gymnastics website over the weekend of 20th/21st June. Check www.british-gymnastics.org for the announcement.

Building capacity to support the clubs and regions - and most importantly... the gymnasts!



Gymnastics England Whole Sport Plan 2009-2013
 For the last 18 months, Gymnastics England has been working with British Gymnastics, the English Regions and external partners to research, consult and draw up plans for the 2009-2013 cycle. These plans are referred to as 'The Whole Sport Plan' (WSP) for Gymnastics.

The Vision of the WSP is to create: **A robust and seamless pathway for gymnastics in England.**

The plan will ensure that there are clear and progressive pathways for all participants in our sport and that gymnasts, coaches, officials and volunteers that deliver gymnastics at a local, regional or national level, will be supported in their role.

The Aims of the WSP are to:

- Improve the quality of provision
- Increase and sustain participation
- Improve performance throughout the pathway

The WSP 2009-2013 has been developed using the 'Gymnast Pathway Model' as the guiding framework for all strategies and interventions.

The 'Gymnast Pathway Model' (above) depicts the gymnast landscape from 0-80+ years (bottom to top) and from recreational to elite performance (left to right).

The left hand side of the model represents those gymnasts who take part in the sport on a non-competitive basis and the segments on the right hand side show competitive gymnasts and those on the talent pathway, the darkest red colour being gymnasts who progress to high performance/podium level.

Try plotting your own pathway in gymnastics onto the model by choosing a starting position for when you first became involved in the sport and track your progress to the present day. If you have never been a participant you can still trace your pathway as a parent of a gymnast or as a coach or volunteer. Just think about the kind of gymnast you support, is it someone participating at school one hour a week (the blue/green area), or a competitive club performer (orange/red area). You may be an adult non-competitive participant near the top of the left hand green/yellow mound, but how did you get there? Did you start in an after school Gym Club (lime green central segment)? Or have you just taken up the sport (straight in from the left hand grey, non-participant area)?

The Model reflects a step change in our strategic and operational thinking. It places the participant at the heart of the planning and delivery process with all interventions - coaching, volunteering, clubs and competition - designed to ensure that the requirements to support a participant at any given stage in the pathway are met.

As an example, if you take coaching, we can use the model to look at the different types of coaches that may be needed at various stages of the pathway - a coach working with adult gymnasts in a recreational setting would need different skills from a coach working with young elite gymnasts. From this we can see what kind of support is needed for coaches in each part of the pathway. Likewise, we can overlay competitions or performance opportunities onto the model to see where we may have gaps in the pathway and where we need to create new opportunities for particular groups of gymnasts.

The WSP is structured into 3 main areas/work strands:

- Workforce Development (including Coaches, Volunteers, Judges and Staff)
- Club Development (including Facility Developments and Club Support)
- Opportunities to Perform and Achieve (including Competitions and Festivals)

Underpinning all strands are Equality, Safeguarding and Research

The consultation for the WSP 2009-2013 started in November 2007 when regional and national officers invited

key stakeholders from within the regions to 'Your Sport, Your Say' (YSYS) forums (findings can be found on the Gymnastics England Website: www.gymnasticsengland.org). These were a series of events designed to gain views from our coaches, committees, gymnasts, parents, volunteers and local partners, as to how gymnastics should best be developed. The feedback formed the basis of the WSP.

The Gymnastics England development team also evaluated the last WSP (2005-2009) with the Regional Committees and consulted with British Gymnastics management, education and technical teams. Our researcher gathered and analysed further information from gymnasts, coaches, officials, committee members, and other individuals within the network before the new plans were drafted.

Individual regional plans have now been developed using national and regional information. These 10 plans, along with national priorities helped form the WSP 2009 - 2013.

We are now in a position to begin rolling out the plans and our first task is to ensure we have the capacity to properly support each of the main work areas.

Crucial to the delivery of the WSP and support at a local level, are the County Gymnastics Development Officers (CDOs) and Regional Workforce Development Co-ordinators (WDCs). The WDCs are new and exciting positions to support the recruitment, training, development and deployment of coaches, volunteers and officials in the regions. If you are passionate about the development of our sport and would like to join our team, look out for the job opportunities coming up over the next couple of months on the new Gymnastics England website www.gymnasticsengland.org.

Gymnastics England is a wholly owned subsidiary of British Gymnastics implementing the Whole Sport Plan in England.



Improving our sport...

GymMark Accreditation

Congratulations to clubs newly accredited with **GymMark**:

Wales

Milford Haven GC

North West

Smartac GC
Apollo GC

Yorkshire

Partnership Gymnastics

East

Havering SA Gym
Epping Forest Elite GC
Turnford GC
Berkhamsted GC
Cambridge Kangaroos TC

London

Greenwich Bouncers
Enfield GC

Congratulations to clubs passing their annual **GymMark** assessment

South

Team Lightning TC
Sapphire Acro GC

South West

Westbank GC
Bristol Hawks GC

South East

Dragon Flyers TC
Uckfield GC
Pyramid GC

East Midlands

Notts SoG
Holbeah & Fenland GC
Mansfield OGC
Northampton TGA

West Midlands

Worcester GC
Park Wrekin College GC

East

Sheredes GC
Springboks T&G
Ipswich Four TC

Yorkshire

Kirklees Rebound TC
Diamonds GC

North

Carlisle GC

Metro TC
Wansbeck GC

London

Sportac 76
Team Nova
Harrow TC
Gym Tots GC

North West

Vernon Park GC
Preston City TC
Valiant GC

Wales

Cwmcarn GC

Congratulations to clubs passing a "new round" of **GymMark**

accreditation:

Phoenix Acro
Bulmershe GC



Channel 4 TV programme seeking volunteers...

An exciting new programme, '**Power Struggle**', being launched by Dragonfly Film and Television Productions for Channel 4, is looking for volunteers to get involved in their televised event!

The programme is a unique educational experience which looks at human behaviour.

They are looking for a large, diverse, mixed group of volunteers to take part.

Should you or anyone you know be interested in applying then please visit www.dragonfly.tv/application for an application form.

Beam Safety

As you are no doubt aware, the support legs on most Women's Artistic Beams are fixed in place with bolts. Following a unique accident, in which a British gymnast sustained injury during a fall from an FIG approved Beam - (where the gymnast held onto the Beam with her arms and legs, resulting in her turning upside down underneath the apparatus) - the manufacturers now provide protective dome bolt covers for those bolts.

Should your Beam not have this protection, we urge you to contact the Beam manufacturer to obtain the dome bolt covers to reduce the risk of similar accidents in the future.

See our Olympic heroes!

The Artistic World Championships are now just months away, and the hottest tickets in the gymnastics world are proving very popular.

The chance to see the world's greatest gymnasts in one of the world's best venues, The O2 Arena in London, is a 'must see' for all gymnastics fans.

Tickets for the Men's qualifying rounds, featuring our Olympic heroes Louis Smith and Daniel Keatings, are still widely available, and from as little as £10 per person for a whopping 12 hours of action, this is the perfect time for the British MAG community to get booking and show support for our boys.

Visit...

www.worldgymnastics2009.com/tickets



Buy equipment from the World Championships 2009

Gymnova has been selected as the official supplier for the forthcoming **Artistic Gymnastics World Championships** to be held in London from October 13th to 18th 2009.

5 complete **WAG** and **MAG** sets provided by **Gymnova** will be on sale after the Championships at exceptionally discounted prices.

If you wish to take advantage of this unique offer, please contact **Gymnova** for further information regarding the equipment and conditions of sale.

You can reach them by contacting **+33 (0)491 875 120** or send your enquiries by email to export@gymnova.com.

Please visit www.gymnova.com in the 'Our Products' category for a list of equipment available.