



## Digital Communication Policy For Gymnasts, Parents & Coaches

This is to remind you that British Gymnastics has a strict policy on the use of the Internet and has recently published new good practice guidelines on the use of social networking sites. Cheshire Gymnastics fully adopts this policy.

The main points are:

- No coach is permitted to communicate directly with an individual gymnast under the age of 18, through text, Internet chat rooms, and social networks (including Facebook and Twitter) or by e-mail.
- Communication to gymnasts under 18 years old must be through parents or group emails or from updates posted on the gym website. Coaches in a position of trust must not communicate on a 1-1 basis with their under 18 year old gymnasts.
- Under no circumstances should a coach communicate with a gymnast under 18 years old via Skype, Blackberry Messenger (BBM), Face Time or any other instant/video messaging apps.
- Gymnasts, Parents and Coaches must not post un-favourable, personal or disrespectful comments regarding gymnasts, coaches, club personnel, the club or any other club on public networks such as Twitter. *If you become aware that the above is occurring, please contact the club Welfare Officer – contact details are on the club website [www.cheshiregymnastics.com](http://www.cheshiregymnastics.com)*
- Full details of this policy can be found on the BG website *Good Practice Guidelines on the use of Social Networking Sites*

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31/01/2018	2	31/01/2019