PARENT VIEWING POLICY

Updated: 18/4/2023

Entry to the gym is restricted to gymnasts, parents of children in PIT A PATS and Playgym, coaches and office staff only. Parents and other spectators are not permitted in the gym to ensure the safety and minimise distraction of gymnasts.

Parents of children in recreational classes are welcome to stay and watch gym classes from the viewing area. Parents must stay to supervise their child until their class commences. It is acceptable for you to leave after their class has started but you must return before the end of class to pick them up. Please accompany children through the car park and into the building.

Parents of Competitive Gymnasts are invited to stay and view training once a month to see the progress of their child. You may use the parent viewing area in the foyer where seats are provided, behind the glass.

By viewing training at such interval's parents are more likely to observe the improvements in their child's performance. This is because gymnastics skills often require many progressions and repetitions before an improvement can be clearly recognised. This policy has been formed in the best interests of the **competitive gymnast.**

1. As you can appreciate, Safety is the number one priority in our club. Often parents have been observed "coaching" their children during class, trying to do sign language. Coaches fear that this will compromise safety standards.

2. Also, when gymnasts are performing the higher level skills, they can look difficult, especially to parents who see their own child there and cringe. Usually parents do not understand what the coach is doing, and therefore feel the progressions are unsafe because they themselves feel uncomfortable.

3. If children know their parents are watching the session, they will often "show-off" in order to please them. This again compromises the safety standards set by the coach.

4. Alternatively, we often see gymnasts perform poorly or show attention-seeking type behaviour because their parents are watching.

Policy published:

- Policy Noticeboard