

## Clothing Attire At Events For Gymnastics Policy

Version 1 - August 2021

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## 1. Purpose

- 1.1. The policy is designed to modernise the rules and make the competition attire that gymnasts can wear at events more inclusive and accessible to all who wish to participate, irrespective of any of the protected characteristics (ie age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, maternity and pregnancy, race, religion, sex and sexual orientation).
- 1.2. This policy also aims to balance the need for accessibility and inclusion with the underlying need to maintain the safety of the gymnasts and the integrity of the judging of their performances.

## 2. Scope

- 2.1. This policy is applicable to all Scottish Gymnastics events, including those that lead to a national/regional final, eg NDP/Grades type competitions.
- 2.2. These rules are applicable in all disciplines, including Gymnastics For All events.
- 2.3. These rules do not apply to events organised by British Gymnastics, see the [British Gymnastics competition attire at events policy](#).
- 2.4. These rules do not apply to events organised in the UK by British or Scottish Gymnastics on behalf of the FIG/European Gymnastics, where their rules are applied.
- 2.5. These rules do not apply to events where the participants are representing Great Britain or Scotland, where other rules may apply.

## 3. Policy Statements

### 3.1. General Principles

The underlying principles that should be adopted by gymnasts are that their competition attire should:

- 3.1.1. be safe for the level of the skills that they are performing;
  - 3.1.2. ensure that the integrity of the evaluation of their performance can be maintained;
  - 3.1.3. be in keeping with the ethical and cultural standards upheld within the sport.
- 3.2. where principles 4.1.1, 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 are met, this policy supersedes any other rules/references that may be published in other discipline specific documents such as Codes of Points and handbooks.

3.3. For the purposes of clarity, the gender specific rules in documents such as the Codes of Points, with the publication of this policy no longer apply specifically to each gender. All acceptable and permissible competition attire can be worn by any competitor, irrespective of gender identity. For example, shorts, leggings or gymnastic trousers or longs are acceptable competition attire in all disciplines, subject to them meeting the principles described in 4.1.1, 4.1.2 and 4.1.3.

### 3.4. Safety

3.4.1. Deviations from historically traditional forms of attire should be suitably assessed for the level of risk by the coach, with analysis focused on ensuring:

3.4.1.1. the safety of the gymnast;

3.4.1.2. that the competition attire will not affect the judges' ability to accurately evaluate the gymnast's performance and therefore not effect the fairness of the competition.

3.4.2. Gymnasts may wear alternative competition attire in accordance with their particular faith, belief or religion (including head coverings), with the proviso that the coach has assessed the risk associated and has taken any suitable mitigating action(s), where applicable, to ensure the highest standards of safety are upheld.

### 3.5. Authority

3.5.1. It is the responsibility of the coach to consider all implications associated with the competition attire. If planned competition attire deviates significantly from convention, it is recommended that the club or coach contact Scottish Gymnastics in advance of the event to discuss the individual circumstances, to ensure that both parties agree that the proposed competition attire is acceptable.

3.5.2. Whilst making every effort to reduce barriers and increase inclusion, Scottish Gymnastics reserves the right to make the final determination of whether the competition attire to be worn by a gymnast is acceptable, based upon the principles set out in 4.1.

3.5.3. Where items of competition attire are deemed unacceptable, the gymnast will be offered the opportunity to change this prior to the start of the event, or they will be withdrawn from the event.

### 3.6. Competition Attire Guidance – Competitive Events

3.6.1. For competitive events, gymnasts must wear a suitably supportive, safe and appropriate non-transparent leotard or unitard (one-piece leotard, of full length, shoulder to ankle).

3.6.2. Gymnasts may wear form fitting complete leg coverings/ leggings/gymnastics trousers/longs (see appendix 1 for examples of acceptable attire).

- 3.6.3. Gymnasts may wear gymnastics shorts (refer to appendix 1 for examples of acceptable attire).
- 3.6.4. Gymnasts may wear alternative competition attire in accordance with their particular faith, belief or religion (including head coverings) with the proviso that the coach has assessed the risk associated with this and has taken any suitable mitigating action(s), where applicable, to ensure the highest standards of safety are upheld.
- 3.6.5. For gymnasts competing within group, partnership or team competition for any discipline. if shorts/leggings are to be worn by one gymnast, in line with the FIG/EG attire policy all gymnasts within the group/partnerships/team should wear the same attire. Clothing is an integral part of the presentation of the artistry of routine and all of the participants should be dressed the same (unless a difference is agreed as a specific reasonable adjustment for a gymnast with a disability).

### 3.7. Competition Attire Guidance – Non-Competitive Events

- 3.7.1. For non-competitive, Gymnastics for All events, gymnasts can wear competition attire in line with the requirements of each event (which may not require a leotard).
- 3.7.2. For festival display gymnastics, gymnasts can wear costumes and do not have to wear leotards as long as their competition attire is safe for the skills being performed, does not restrict movement or obscure vision and is in keeping with the ethical and cultural values of gymnastics.

### 3.8. Competition Attire Guidance – Other Considerations

- 3.8.1. Advertising on competition attire must adhere to the [British Gymnastics Advertising on Clothing & Competition Attire at Events Policy](#).
- 3.8.2. When representing a club or region, the wearing of GBR or Scottish competition attire at some Scottish and British Gymnastics events is strictly forbidden. Refer to the discipline and event specific Competition Handbooks for clarification and exemptions.
- 3.8.3. Strapping and taping – a suitable colour of tape should be used, ie no bright colours or patterns. Please read your disciplines code of conduct as some may specify.
- 3.8.4. The half and full removal of leotards on the Field of Play is not allowed.

### 3.9. Infringements

- 3.9.1. In the event that clothing is worn that has not been authorised by Scottish Gymnastics that is deemed to be unsuitable, then penalties, as per the discipline specific Code of Points may be applied.

## 4. Definitions

### 4.1. Coach

- 4.1.1. Is the coach who is submitted in the online entry process and who is responsible for the gymnast for the entire event. This coach must have the pre-requisites defined in the Scottish Gymnastics Competition Handbook and be present on the competition floor throughout the event. Please refer to discipline specific competition handbook for further details.

### 4.2. Code of Points

- 4.2.1. The specific technical rules that are applicable to each discipline/event.

### 4.3. Competition Attire

- 4.3.1. The singlet, leotard, unitard, shorts, leg covering, head covering etc worn by the gymnasts during their performance (competition routine/display).

### 4.4. Events

- 4.4.1. Competitions or festival display type activities which are organised by or on behalf of Scottish or British Gymnastics, where Scottish Gymnastics membership and other specific rules are in force.

### 4.5. Field of Play

- 4.5.1. Location within the event venue where the gymnasts perform their competition routine or display, usually in view of a spectating audience.

### 4.6. Gymnast

- 4.6.1. The person performing the routine (either competitive or non-competitive) within the event. In the context of this policy, all of the competition attire requirements are applicable to all of those taking part, irrespective of their sex or gender-reassignment.

## 5. Roles & Responsibilities

### 5.1. Compliance, Monitoring & Review

- 5.1.1. The Scottish Gymnastics events department, along with the discipline specific technical committees will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the policy.
- 5.1.2. The policy will initially be reviewed after one year of implementation and thereafter, once every Olympic cycle, by the events department in conjunction with:
  - Scottish Gymnastics
  - Scottish Gymnastics technical committees

## 6. Interdependencies & Related Policies

- 6.1. Discipline Specific Scottish and British Gymnastics National Competition Handbooks
- 6.2. Discipline Specific FIG/European Gymnastics and British Gymnastics Codes of Points

## 7. Impact Assessments

- 7.1. An Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken for this policy
- 7.2. A Data Impact Assessment was not required for this policy

## 8. Procedures

- 8.1. All the coaches at Scottish Gymnastics events, along with their clubs should make themselves aware of the policy and ensure that the gymnasts adhere to these rules.
- 8.2. In the case of doubt about the application of this policy, coaches or their clubs should seek specific guidance from Scottish Gymnastics events department prior to the start of the event, to help prevent problems arising and sanctions being applicable.

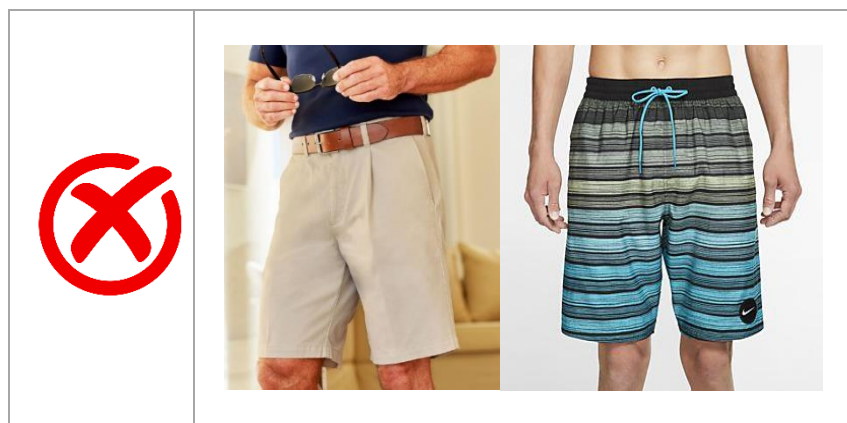
## 9. Appendices

### Appendix 1 – Examples of acceptable and un-acceptable competition attire

#### 9.1.1. Acceptable shorts



#### 9.1.2. Unsuitable shorts



#### 9.1.3. Acceptable longs / leg coverings

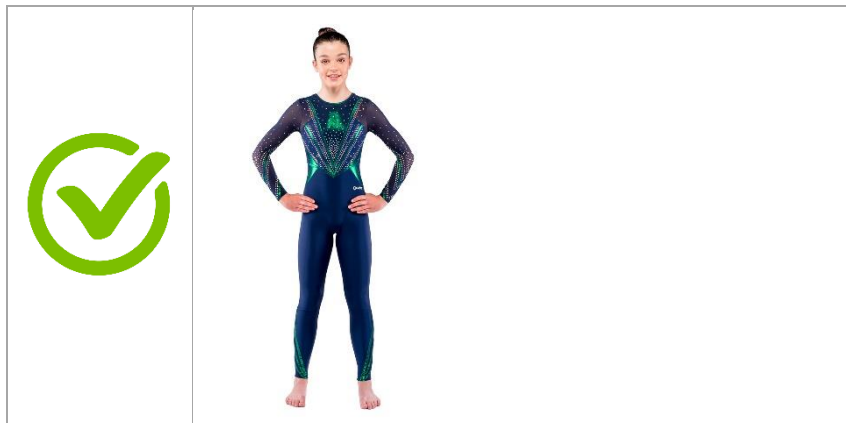




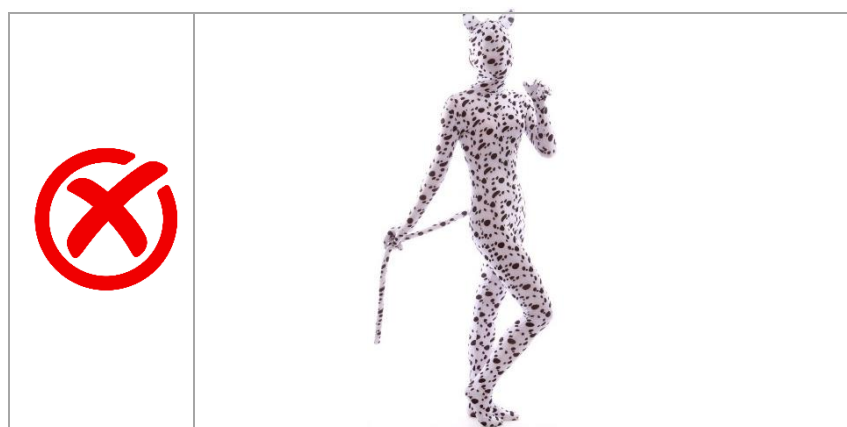
9.1.4. Unacceptable leg coverings



9.1.5. Suitable unitards

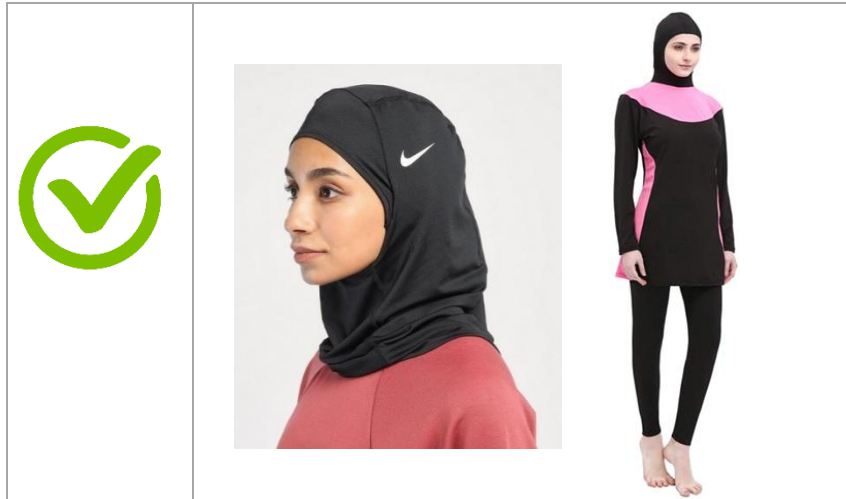


9.1.6. Unsuitable unitards (for competition routines)



### 9.1.7. Suitable head coverings

These must be risk assessed & fit for purpose given all safety considerations



### 9.1.8. Unsuitable head coverings

