



Gymnastics
Australia

PARENT/SUPPORTER POLICY

Policy Name:	Parent/Supporter Policy
Date of Approval:	April 1999
Policy Coverage:	Sport
Date of Review:	July 2006

1. INTRODUCTION

Gymnastics Australia (GA) has established the following policy to ensure that their Australian Teams are given the best possible chance of success without the distractions that can be inadvertently brought onto the team by well meaning supporters and parents.

This policy should be read and understood by all parents and supporters. GA asks for your total support in ensuring that this policy is adhered to.

2. TEAM TRAVEL

When the overseas tour or competition in Australia is organised by GA, the following conditions apply:

- Parents/supporters are asked not to travel on the same flights as the team
- Parents/supporters are asked not to request assistance from GA with travel bookings.
- Official Supporters Tours may be conducted by GA or by prior arrangement GA may assist in co-ordinating any supporter groups.

3. TEAM ACCOMMODATION

When the overseas tour or competition in Australia is organised by GA, the following conditions apply:

- Parents/supporters are asked not to arrange accommodation in the same hotel as the team.
- Parents/supporters are asked not to request assistance from GA with accommodation bookings.

4. CONTACT WITH TEAM MEMBERS

GA ask that all parents and supporters refrain from contacting the athletes at times other than approved by the team manager and/or personal coaches. It is understood that the support of the parents is vital to the athlete and every effort will be made to ensure that social/family time is allocated when appropriate to competition and training times. This will also apply to official Training Camps held prior to major competitions.

5. GA COMMUNICATION

All parents will be informed of details of the tours via team circulars issued from the GA office. The circulars will advise contact details for the team whilst competing overseas.

Parents are invited to contact the GA office should they have any concerns or queries regarding the tour or competition. Results from the competitions are placed as soon as possible on the GA Web Site or links are established to the competition sites.

Where possible, GA will endeavour to secure tickets to major events held overseas e.g. World Championships for any organised supporter groups.

6. GENERAL

Parents/supporters are requested to refrain from placing themselves in a situation overseas where the Team Management may have to deny a request, which may at the time seem harsh and unreasonable to the parents/supporters e.g.:

- Seeking assistance with local transport (wanting to travel on the team bus)
- Socialising with the team whilst they are in transit at airports
- Making arrangements to coincide with team plans when prior information is known (it is understood that this may happen accidentally)

7. CONCLUSION

GA asks that all parents/supporters understand that this policy has been implemented to ensure that the team is given the best opportunity to perform without any distractions.

GA seeks your support in accepting this policy, which will ensure that all parents/supporter groups travelling overseas fully understand the situation.

8. APPEALS AND GRIEVANCE

All members have the opportunity to appeal and/or lodge a grievance to the relevant management levels. Further details are contained in the GA Grievance and Appeals policy document.

9. CHANGES TO THE POLICY

Changes to this policy may be submitted by GA Board, State Associations and National Sports Management Committees for review and approval by the GA Board. Once a change has been approved, the policy will be updated in the official GA policy register and on the Intranet and circulated to GA Board, State Associations and relevant SMC.

In addition, Gymnastics Australia is committed to ensuring all policies are up-to-date and reflect current practices. The latest review date is recorded at the beginning of each policy.