



## **Disciplinary Procedure**

### **1. Purpose and scope**

Southampton Gymnastics aim is to encourage improvement in individual conduct or performance. This procedure sets out the action which will be taken when disciplinary rules are breached or where standards of performance are not reached.

### **2. Principles**

- a) The procedure is designed to establish the facts quickly and to deal consistently with disciplinary issues. No disciplinary action will be taken until the matter has been fully investigated.
- b) At every stage volunteers will have the opportunity to state their case and be represented or accompanied, if they wish, at the hearings by a work colleague.
- c) A volunteer has the right to appeal against any disciplinary penalty.

### **3. The Procedure**

Stage 1 – first warning/performance improvement note

If conduct or performance is unsatisfactory, the volunteer will be given a written warning or performance improvement note. Such warnings will be recorded, but disregarded after 6 months of satisfactory service. The volunteer will also be informed that a final written warning may be considered if there is no sustained satisfactory improvement or change. (Where the first offence is sufficiently serious, for example because it is having, or is likely to have, a serious harmful effect on Southampton Gymnastics, it may be justifiable to move directly to a final written warning.)

Stage 2 – final written warning

If the offence is serious, or there is no improvement in standards, or if a further offence of a similar kind occurs, a final written warning will be given which will include the reason for the warning and a note that if no improvement results within 12 months, action at Stage 3 will be taken.

Stage 3 – dismissal or action short of dismissal

If the conduct or performance has failed to improve, the employee may suffer demotion, disciplinary transfer, or dismissal.

*Statutory discipline and dismissal procedure.*

If an employee faces dismissal – or action short of dismissal such as loss of pay or demotion – the minimum statutory procedure will be followed. This involves:

- step one: a written note to the employee setting out the allegation and the basis for it
- step two: a meeting to consider and discuss the allegation
- step three: a right of appeal including an appeal meeting

The volunteer will be reminded of their right to be accompanied.



### **Gross misconduct**

If, after investigation, it is confirmed that a volunteer has committed an offence of the following nature (the list is not exhaustive), the normal consequence will be dismissal without notice,

- theft, damage to property, fraud, incapacity for work due to being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, physical violence, bullying and gross insubordination.

While the alleged gross misconduct is being investigated, the volunteer may be suspended, during which time he or she will be paid their normal pay rate. Any decision to dismiss will be taken by the Volunteer Coordinator only after full investigation.

### **Appeals**

A volunteer who wishes to appeal against any disciplinary decision must do so to the Chair of the MC within five working days. The Chair will hear the appeal and decide the case as impartially as possible.