



## CONSTITUTION OF GYMNASTICS NORTHERN IRELAND

*The Members of Gymnastics Northern Ireland at the Extraordinary General Meeting formally adopted this constitution on the 3rd December 2019.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Gymnastics NI Management Committee Member

### 1. TITLE

The name of this organisation shall be 'Gymnastics Northern Ireland, known also as Gymnastics NI or GNI in short.

### 2. AIMS and OBJECTIVES

To act as the governing body for Gymnastics in all its forms in Northern Ireland (NI). To work in collaboration with British Gymnastics (BG) to sustain, promote, encourage and develop the sport of gymnastics (in this and the following provisions of this clause, the word 'Gymnastics' includes, without limitation, all or any of Aerobic, Acrobatic, Disability, Gymnastics For All, Men's Artistic, Pre-School, Rhythmic, TeamGym, Trampoline and Women's Artistic gymnastics and such other areas of physical education and other physical activities as are from time to time approved by the British Gymnastics Board).

- a) Affiliate to British Gymnastics as the UK Governing Body recognised by the Union of European (UEG) and the Federation International Gymnastique (FIG) and to comply with such conditions of affiliation as may be determined from time to time by the BG Board of Directors provided always that such conditions are not in conflict with any other objects herein.
- b) To collaborate with BG who will drive and deliver development activities in Northern Ireland in the areas of Club Development, Participation Development, Education and Judge Development and all applicable activities herein.
- c) To work in partnership with BG to advise on an effective development plan for gymnastics in NI in relation to 2b.
- d) To sit on relevant BG committees to provide input towards a co-ordinated approach to the delivery of strategic and technical national development plans (NDPs).
- e) To promote and facilitate BG coach and judge education to effectively equip NI with the workforce required to deliver on the GNI Development Plan
- f) Promoting and organising championships, competitions and such other events as may be necessary in NI.
- g) Promoting and facilitating the attendance of suitably qualified NI gymnasts at National and International competitions and championships.
- h) Promoting and assisting with organising Judging courses aimed at improving and broadening the standards of Judging in NI. Including preparation of NI Judges for FIG Brevet standards.
- i) Providing Judges and such other officials, as may be necessary for NI competitions and or festivals.



- j) Promoting practices that safeguard the interests and well-being of participants in the sport, by ensuring the BG-UK wide Safeguarding and Protection Policy is adhered to in all its activities.
- k) To work with BG to make, vary, alter, maintain and enforce rules and regulations for the good governance of gymnastic activity in NI.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

- a) GNI and BG will operate a joint membership scheme administered by BG
- b) All persons who are Gold, Joint or Life members are entitled to attend, participate and vote at a General Meeting
- c) Any Club, Leisure Centre, School or individual who registers with BG are regarded as a member/affiliate of GNI
- d) Membership of GNI shall be open, irrespective of ethnic identity, age, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, class, marital status, political or religious opinion: as according to Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act
- e) All members will be subject to the regulations of the GNI constitution.

### **4. MANAGEMENT**

- a) GNI shall be managed by a Management Committee which shall consist of the following elected voting members:
  - Chairperson – appointed for a period of 4 years
  - Financial Manager – appointed for a period of 4 years
  - Marketing and Communications – appointed for a period of 4 years
  - Duty of Care - appointed for a period of 4 years
  - Regional Welfare Manager – appointed for a period of 4 years
  - One additional competency based voting member as required – appointed for a period of 4 years.
- b) And also the following Non-Voting members
  - A BG representative
  - A minute secretary
  - Up to three competency based roles as required – appointed for a period of 4 years.
- c) The members shall elect posts at a General Meeting
- d) At the conclusion of terms of office a role holder will be eligible for re-election
- e) The management committee will meet no less than 6 times per year
- f) The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Committee meetings will be 4
- g) There shall be Technical Committees for each Gymnastics discipline who shall be responsible to the Management Committee for the advancement and development of the technical aspects of the discipline.
- h) Technical Committees shall consist of: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Events Co-ordinator
- i) Technical Committees shall be elected by GNI members at a General Meeting
- j) Technical Committees shall meet no less than 5 times per year



- k) The quorum required for business to be agreed at Technical Committee meeting will be 4
- l) Technical Committees will forward recorded notes/minutes of all meeting to the GNI Management Committee.

## **5. FINANCE**

The Management Committee shall be responsible for the management of the funds for GNI and shall employ them for the purposes and objects of the Association and in such ways as may seem to the Management Committee to be in the best interests of the sport.

- a) Accounts
  - i. GNI Management Committee and Technical Committees will operate as per the GNI Financial Policy 2019
  - ii. The Finance Manager/Treasurers shall keep proper account of finances of GNI
  - iii. The Finance Manager/Treasurers shall present quarterly accounts to GNI Management Committee
  - iv. The financial year shall run 1st April – 31st March
  - v. The accounts shall be examined every 2 years by an auditor or independent person and subsequently presented to the Management Committee
  - vi. All GNI monies shall be banked into the GNI bank account
  - vii. Payments for goods and services shall be through an invoice system
  - viii. The Management Committee shall authorise in writing the Chair and two other Management Committee members to sign cheques on behalf of GNI. All cheques must be signed by not less than two Management Committee members
  - ix. The GNI Management Committee will agree with the Technical Committees planned activity, annual budget, reporting and accounting processes and procedures to ensure a support system for the Technical Committee in all matters relating to finance.

## **6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- a) An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held at such a place and time (not being more than 15 months after the holding of the preceding Annual General Meeting) as the GNI Management Committee determine.
- b) The notice convening the AGM shall be circulated at least 21 days in advance to all eligible voting members
- c) The following business shall be transacted:
  - i. Consideration and, if appropriate, approval of Minutes of last AGM
  - ii. Consideration and, if appropriate, approval of all reports provided by Management Committee post holders and the statement of account for the foregoing year
  - iii. To elect GNI Management and Technical Committee members
  - iv. To transact any other relevant business of which due notice has been given (14 days)
  - v. Notices of relevant business for inclusion in the AGM agenda including nominees for posts must be received by GNI at least 14 days in advance of the AGM. Such notices, duly proposed and seconded by eligible members



- vi. Prior to the AGM an agenda, including all relevant business, shall be circulated to all parties 21 days in advance of the AGM
- d) The minutes of the AGM shall be circulated to all eligible GNI members

#### **7. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS**

- a) An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be summoned at any time by GNI Chairperson on their own request or on a request signed for and on behalf of not less than 6 affiliated Clubs/Organisations
- b) Such a request must contain the reason for the meeting and must be circulated with the notice of the meeting, not less than 21 days before the meeting date.
- c) No business other than that for which the meeting is specifically convened, shall be dealt with at the EGM.
- d) The GNI shall preside at such meetings
- e) The minutes of the EGM shall be circulated to all eligible GNI members

#### **8. RULES OF PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS**

- a) The quorum at General Meetings of GNI shall be 10 eligible members
- b) Voting on any resolution/issue is by a simple majority of those eligible members, whether by their presence at the General Meeting, Proxy Vote or Postal Vote
- c) The Chairperson or person presiding at the time of the General Meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote in the event of any tied vote.
- d) Where more than one nomination is received for a post the voting will be by ballot
- e) Minutes of the meeting will be recorded and circulated to all eligible members
- f) The instrument appointing a proxy is via a signed Proxy Vote form to be received by GNI not less than 48 hours before the time of the meeting
- g) Postal voting is via completion of the GNI Postal Vote form, to be received by GNI not less than 48 hours before the time of the meeting.

#### **9. ANTI-DOPING RULES**

- a) In respect of Anti-doping, GNI defers to the rules and regulations of BG, UEG and FIG
- b) GNI shall recognise and take all necessary steps to give full force and effect within its jurisdiction to the a) Anti-doping Rules and b) to sanctions imposed under BG, UEG and FIG Anti-doping rules.

#### **10. ALTERATION TO RULES OF GNI**

- a) No motion for the alteration or addition to this Constitution shall be admitted except at an AGM or EGM constituted in accordance with articles 6 and 7 above. No change shall be validated unless two thirds of those representatives eligible to vote as per article 3 above vote in favour of the change.

#### **11. DISSOLUTION**

- a) A resolution to dissolve GNI shall only be proposed at an EGM and shall be carried by a majority of three quarters of the eligible voting membership



- b) The dissolution shall take effect immediately after the vote and the GNI Management Committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of GNI
- c) Any property remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of GNI shall be gifted to GNI clubs or when this option exhausted a charitable organisation

## **12. INDEMNITY**

- a) GNI shall indemnify and keep indemnified every officer, member and volunteer in good standing with GNI against all claims, demands, actions and proceedings, in connection with Management Committee agreed work, activities and actions.
- b) This indemnity shall not extend to liabilities arising from wilful and individual fraud, wrongdoing or wrongful omission on the part of the post holder, member or volunteer.
- c) GNI Management Committee are responsible for arranging this policy of insurance in respect of indemnity.