

**OAKVILLE GYMNASTICS CLUB
PROTECTION OF MINORS POLICY**

1. Purpose

The Oakville Gymnastics Club (the “**Club**”) is committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our athletes, members, coaches, staff members and volunteers (the “**Members**”) who have not yet reached their eighteenth (18th) birthday (a “**Minor**”) so they can participate in Club activities in a relaxed and secure atmosphere.

2. OGC’s Commitment to the Protection of Minors

All Members that are Minors have the right to participate in Club activities free from harassment, bullying, neglect and to abuse of all forms, including but not limited to:

- (i) Physical abuse;
- (ii) Sexual abuse; and
- (iii) Emotional abuse.

3. Official Protection of Minors Policy

- (a) The Club will create a fun, safe environment for Minors by:
 - (i) Making the health and well-being of the Club’s Minors its first priority;
 - (ii) Incorporating the safety and well-being of the Club’s Minors when planning programs and activities;
 - (iii) Encouraging Members to freely express and listen to each other’s ideas;
 - (iv) Respecting the rights, wishes, and feelings of its Minors; and
 - (v) Recognizing that coaches, staff and other adults at the Club occupy a unique position of trust
- (b) You are required to take immediate action to protect Minors if there are any concerns for their safety and welfare.
- (c) If you have reason to believe a Minor is being abused or neglected, you are required to report it an adult staff member or the Executive Director, who will then be responsible for reporting the abuse or neglect to the Halton Regional Police. You may have additional protection and reporting obligations under provincial, territorial, and federal laws.