**Judges code of conduct**

*In addition to adhering to and following all procedures contained within The Meapa**code of ethics (Appendix 1) that is applicable to all people bound by this policy, this specific code of conduct has been developed for judges.*

I understand that as an integral component of my accreditation, I must maintain a standard of behaviour and conduct in the best interests of the sport and the gymnasts. In representing myself in an honest manner and without bringing the judging profession or the sport into disrepute, I will endeavour to uphold the following to the best of my ability:

**General Principles**

1. Abide by the rules, policies and procedures of the Meapa and British Gymnastics and applicable organisations.
2. Conduct yourself in a manner consistent with your position as a positive role model for children and as a representative of the Meapa by displaying discipline, respect, care and diligence towards other coach/instructors, gymnasts and all others involved in our sport.
3. Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment and benefit – not yours.
4. The Meapaprohibits judges from smoking or consuming alcohol in front of gymnasts at any point during the Meapa programming (including the Meapa facilities, trip accommodation, external competition venues and team activities)

**Expectations**

1. Provide a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment that places health, welfare and wellbeing of gymnasts above all else.
2. Set a good example for all the Meapa gymnasts and members by demonstrating appropriate behaviour and conduct at all times
3. Never partake in behaviour that could harm the reputation of the Meapa the sport of gymnastics.
4. Actively seek professional development opportunities to keep yourself informed of new or evolving judging rules and regulations.
5. Contribute to the education process in gymnastics. Judges can assist gymnasts and coaches/instructors to maximise gymnast’s potential by ensuring requirements are understood, and by encouraging good sportsmanship.

**At Events**

1. Ensure you are wearing appropriate clothing attire at all competitions and events.
2. Be punctual for all official events.
3. Attend all pre-competition judge’s meetings.
4. Be prepared for the competition by having all personal judging equipment and accessories readily available.
5. Be co-operative with competition organisers, floor managers, announcers and head judges.
6. Adhere to all judging rules and regulations fairly and to the best of your abilities.
7. Ensure consistency, objectiveness and courtesy in when scoring all gymnasts regardless of the club they come from.
8. Adhere the Meapa Travel policy when attending events with a team.

**Respect & Sportsmanship**

1. Treat everyone in our sport in a considerate, respectful, objective and courteous manner with a proper regard for their rights, dignity and worth.
2. Treat all gymnasts fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status and other conditions.
3. Accept and respect the role of coaches/instructors and administrators, as well as the role of any employees or volunteers of affiliated bodies who assist in the administration of the sport of gymnastics generally.
4. When working with gymnasts, actively promote the forbidden use of performance enhancing drugs.

**Child Safeguarding**

1. Actively support all efforts to create a child safe culture and remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
2. Ensure and remind others that you must seek permission from any other parents/guardians/clubs of gymnasts outside the Meapa if they are visible in footage or photography.
3. Do not engage in any filming, recording, photography or use of mobile phones in change-rooms at the Meapa any gymnastics event where permission is not granted.
4. Report any form of misconduct of inappropriate behaviour/treatment to the appropriate personnel.

**By signing this document, you are agreeing to the following terms:**

1. I agree to abide by the Meapa Judges code of conduct.
2. I acknowledge that the Meapa committee/management may take disciplinary action against me if I breach the Judges code of conduct. I understand that the Meapa required to implement the complaints handling procedure within the and in accordance with the principles of natural justice, in the event of an allegation against me.
3. I acknowledge that disciplinary action against me may include termination of my (Link to Travel Team Policy Form) employment or volunteering contract.

**Signature of Judge: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Note:*** *This “Judges code of conduct” is to be signed and conformed to as part of the employee requirements of the Meapa Judges should be aware that, in addition to this code, they may be obliged to sign a further code of conduct with British Gymnastics if necessary.*