

# PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SAFETY CHECKLISTS

## GYMNASTICS (GENERAL, TUMBLING, AND ARTISTIC)

Gymnastics is a sport that involves the performance of sequences of physical movements, requiring physical strength, flexibility, and kinesthetic awareness; the different events involved are general gymnastics, women's artistic gymnastics, men's artistic gymnastics, rhythmic gymnastics, and aerobic gymnastics.

Risk Factor Rating

4

### General Learning Outcome

The student will demonstrate safe and responsible behaviours to manage risks and prevent injuries in physical activity participation and for daily living.

### Risk Management Strategies

Safety information and recommendations contained in this safety checklist are believed to reflect best practice to reduce risk. The suggested risk management strategies are considered minimum standards for physical activity in an organized or formal setting. They may not apply to all situations (e.g., home-based, recreational, or modified activities), and more stringent safety standards may be applied by instructors/coaches/program leaders of OUT-of-class physical activities in organized programs.

### Instruction

**Note:** The amount and level of instruction/directions required by the student may vary based on circumstances such as the student's personal experience, skill level, and physical condition. The use of media resources, such as books and instructional videos, may replace direct instruction if deemed appropriate and safe.

Instruction is received from a trained/certified National Coaching Certification Program/Gymnastics Canada coach, or an experienced coach capable of demonstrating competencies of a certified coach as is appropriate, depending on various factors such as level of risk, intensity, accessibility, experience, and skill

All sessions are conducted in a safe environment, with students aware of potential risks involved in gymnastics

Safety rules are learned prior to participation

Skills/movements are learned in proper progression

Difficulty of skill is appropriate for student's development/capabilities

Each session is conducted with a proper warm-up, cool-down, and appropriate fitness work

Drinking water is available and consumed as needed

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### Supervision

**Note:** The level of supervision is provided as is appropriate, depending on various factors such as level of risk, intensity, accessibility, experience, and skill.

Recommended level of supervision: **constant visual supervision** during inversions, vault work, and initial instruction of difficult moves; **on-site supervision** is required the rest of the time

Spotters are in place as is appropriate

Safety rules and procedures are enforced

Emergency action plan is in place to deal with accidents/injuries

### Facility

Activity area is free of hazards/debris

Floor provides good footing

Activity area is clearly marked with adequate out-of-bounds areas

Proper lighting and ventilation, when applicable, are provided

Instructions for use of facility are posted

Emergency exit of indoor facility is clearly marked

### Equipment

Equipment to be used is suitable and in good condition

Equipment (beams, bars, etc.) is checked by a qualified person before every session

Instructions are given regarding the proper maintenance of gymnastics equipment

Instruction is given on how to set up/take down portable equipment

Good working sound system is available

First aid kit and phone are available

### Clothing/Footwear

Appropriate footwear is worn; gymnastics shoes or bare feet may be acceptable

Jewelry is removed or secured when safety is a concern

Appropriate clothing is worn, permitting unrestricted movement

Clothing must meet requirements of club or competition

### Other Considerations

The student has completed a regular medical checkup and a medical history prior to starting the program

The student has submitted the signed Parent Declaration and Consent & Student Declaration Form (student under 18) or Student Declaration Form (student 18 and over) prior to beginning the program

Registration in an accident insurance plan is encouraged

Students who suffer an injury are referred to appropriate medical personnel for treatment and rehabilitation, and should not return to training until cleared by a qualified medical professional

The activity is suitable to the student's age, ability, mental condition, and physical condition

The student demonstrates self-control at all times and avoids any behaviour deemed inappropriate

The student's choice of this activity as part of the OUT-of-class component of the physical education/health education course has been presented to the parent/guardian (student under 18 years of age) and to the teacher