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Prepared For: Wye Gymnastics and Galaxy Cheerleading (WGGC)

Prepared By: Landsker Business Solutions Ltd.

Contact Details: Jeremy Bowen Rees
Ashley Calvert

Tel: 01994 240631

Email: jeremy@landsker.co.uk
ashley@landsker.co.uk

Website: www.landsker.co.uk

Address: Landsker Business Centre,
Llwynybrain
Whitland
Carmarthenshire
SA34 0NG

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Wye Gymnastics and Galaxy Cheerleading

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABLE POLICY

Wye Gymnastics and Galaxy Cheerleading (WGGC) did not have a considered environmental and sustainable policy or eco code in place. The following points are important to consider:

- WGGC offers a range of activities, and provides a safe, effective and child friendly environment in which to offer children the opportunity to participate in gymnastics and cheerleading at a recreational and for some, competitive level.
 - This policy and associated eco-code are designed to guide and influence WGGC's "strategic" Sustainable Development (SD) aims and outline the organisation's starting SD position.
 - This Environmental and Sustainable policy creates an initial baseline against which future sustainable developments may be assessed, reviewed and measured against. It will use the Plan, Do, Check and Act principles as outlined below;
- 1) Plan - Recognize an opportunity and plan a change.
 - 2) Do - Test the change. Carry out a small-scale study.
 - 3) Check - Review the test, analyse the results and identify what has been learned.
 - 4) Act - Take action based on what has been learned. If the change did not work, go through the cycle again with a different plan. If successful, incorporate wider changes within the organisation and community. Implement the learning and plan new improvements then beginning the cycle again.

The documents produced for WGGC are published on the basis that they will be used for three purposes:

- 1) To develop the organisation's understanding of its environmental performance and obligations and create a baseline.
- 2) To use the developed environmental and sustainable policy and eco code to help specify future developments of premises or use of other external spaces, in terms of its required environmental characteristics
- 3) To begin to develop the "conversation" with its staff, volunteers, customers and visitors to its facilities around the importance of its environmental responsibilities and what it can do moving forward to continually improve its environmental performance.

Who are Wye Gymnastics and Galaxy Cheerleading

In September 2017, Wye Gymnastics & Galaxy Cheerleading merged together to become one team, and a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

The club made their move into their full time facility in August 2011 and their new home has seen the club develop significantly. Galaxy Cheerleaders was set up in February 2012, training from the Wye's Up Centre.

The club has gone from strength to strength and the merger with Wye Gymnastics has given all involved an even greater opportunity to develop in the sport they love.

WGGC's aim is to provide a safe, effective and child friendly environment in which to offer children the opportunity to participate in gymnastics and cheerleading at a recreational and for some, competitive level.

WGGC provide a child centered, coach led programme and endeavour to help children to enjoy using their bodies in a disciplined and controlled sport. At the same time WGGC hope participants develop character as well as physical stamina, learning to encourage and help others. This in turn builds an essential club spirit, so that each child is not concerned only with individual performance.

Participating in Gymnastics & Cheerleading also provides benefits for those that take part in other sports and physical pursuits as it draws on and develops the core qualities of all-round fitness: strength, mobility, endurance, flexibility, body control and co-ordination

The club is affiliated to British and Welsh Gymnastics and has adopted the British Gymnastics (BG) policies for Child Protection, Equality and Codes of Conduct. All our coaches are qualified to the appropriate level and have been screened for their suitability to work with children.

The Environmental Policy

This policy aims to include environmental and sustainability issues within our strategic decision making processes to help us achieve our aims and vision.

We recognise that what we do results in some emissions to air and water, and the generation of waste. It is our overall aim to minimise our environmental impacts and to operate in an environmentally responsible manner. This policy summarises how we will achieve our aim:

We will:

- Comply with, and exceed where practicable, in the premises we use, all applicable environmental legislation, regulations and codes of practice
- Integrate environment and sustainability considerations into our strategic and operational business decisions and ensure that activities are monitored, owned and acted upon
- Ensure that all members, employees, volunteers, trustees and stakeholders are fully aware of our Environmental and Sustainability Policy and are committed to supporting, implementing and improving it
- Minimise unnecessary office and transportation activities to reduce the impact on the environment leading to a reduction in CO2 emissions and improved sustainability
- Make members, employees, volunteers, trustees and stakeholders appropriately aware of our policy, and encourage them to adopt sound and reciprocal practices
- Review, report annually, and continually strive to improve our environmental performance by setting increasingly demanding sustainability objectives
- Commit to the minimal use of all “resources” and the prevention of pollution.

OUR STRATEGY TO PURSUE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

We will deliver our policy by:

1. Purchasing or using equipment or supplies that are renewable, have been, or can be recycled, where practical, and are from sustainable sources
2. Controlling and minimising all forms of waste
3. Endeavouring to obtain our energy needs from renewable, or at least low impact, resources
4. Monitoring energy use, in all areas of the premises we use, especially those with high usage, and publishing meaningful data which can be acted upon
5. Including energy life-cycle costing within equipment purchasing procedures to ensure prudent procurement which supports our long term environmental aims
6. Including energy awareness, usage, management and monitoring within all employee/volunteer/trustee induction & subsequent training programmes
7. Encouraging and implementing members, employees, volunteers, trustees and stakeholders awareness campaigns to regularly consider our energy and environmental actions so that all adopt sustainable behaviours in how the facilities we use are used
8. Designating energy conservation as a key organisational objective and instigating it within the day to day working procedures of WGGC and members, employees, volunteers, trustees and stakeholders duties, by setting appropriate Key Performance Indicators which are monitored, reported against and acted upon at Senior Management level.
9. Monitoring and reducing energy by a fixed agreed annual percentage target in line with our business plan and future premises needs
10. Working with others to identify best practice, usage efficiencies and pursuing continuous improvement in how we use and conserve energy
11. Reducing the generation of all waste and ensuring, where feasible, that it is recycled and minimises the amount going to landfill
12. Informing members, employees, volunteers, trustees and stakeholders, regularly and clearly, of our commitment to reducing environmental impact
13. Applying best practice guidelines specific for the different areas of the premises we use to minimise energy usage but not at the expense of members, employees, volunteers, trustees and stakeholders comfort
14. Continually researching viable options for further energy usage reduction schemes within the premises we use (e.g. renewable energy sources, ground/air source heating, solar/Photo Voltaic etc.)
15. Developing and implementing an environmental management system for WGGC, which may be used to pursue environmental accreditation such as Green Dragon or ISO 14001 Environmental standard.

This Policy will become available, electronically, on request. If you wish to obtain a copy or would like to discuss our thinking or progress against our environmental objectives, please contact WGGC Management.

This policy will be reviewed and updated annually in line with our current business plan and premises requirements.

Last update – May 2019