



Gymnastics
Australia

CLUB AFFILIATION: CLUB NAME POLICY

Policy Name:	Club Affiliation: Club Name Policy
Date of Approval:	June 2003
Policy Coverage:	Business - Membership
Date of Review:	July 2006

1. INTRODUCTION

Gymnastics Australia has implemented the National Club Affiliation standards that have been adopted across Australia. These standards ensure that each club seeking affiliation with Gymnastics meets minimum benchmarks in regards to safety and their operational structure prior to membership being accepted.

In addition to the National Affiliation standards, State Associations have additional requirements:

- Club Name
- Club Colours
- Club competition uniform

This document outlines the policy that has been adopted regarding the name of clubs seeking affiliation. It has been written to ensure that all clubs seeking affiliation, or current clubs wishing to change their recognised name, can clearly understand the State Association's position in regards to names.

2. DEFINITION

The name for a club seeking affiliation, and/or affiliated, to a State Association is the name recognised through the formal process the club has undergone to become incorporation or a registered business. It is this name that is identified and detailed on the Affiliation Form and will be the name that is recognised within all gymnastic documentation and systems including the national membership database.

Note: Where Public Liability Insurance is taken up by an affiliated club, the accepted legal and /or trading names detailed on the Affiliation Form will also be the name(s) in which the Insurance 'Certificate of Currency' is issued.

3. PRINCIPLES

Gymnastics Australia believes that this policy:

- ***Provides protection to both National and State bodies and affiliated clubs within Gymnastics' membership***

This policy ensures that new organisations joining gymnastics' membership are not accepted with names that:

- Are already utilised by a member club within State Associations
- May be in conflict with National and/or State Governing bodies
- Can be construed to be in conflict with National and/or State Governing bodies and/or affiliated member clubs

- ***Encourages a harmonious and valuable membership through protecting and recognising the rights of clubs based on their affiliation with State Associations***

This policy ensures that a name accepted through affiliation, and entered on the National membership database, remains individual to the member club who holds the name. This name must be recognised under the required incorporation and/or business statutory registration processes.

- ***Ensures transparency in regards to accepting club affiliation, based on the recognised name of the club.***

This policy ensures all organisations seeking membership with State Associations are aware of the affiliation requirements in regards to names, and the purpose behind this policy

- ***Does not restrict, or endeavour to restrict, the right of trade of any organisation, particularly if the organisation wishes to trade outside of Gymnastics club affiliation scheme***

This policy is designed to avoid conflict and confusion in regards to names only, within Gymnastics' membership. It is in-line with State Associations' Constitutions and supports the meeting of minimum standards prior to affiliation being accepted. This policy only applies to clubs seeking affiliation, or who are currently affiliated with their State Association and wish to change their name. This policy does not restrict trade of organisations who wish to operate outside of gymnastics' membership scheme.

4. OPERATING FRAMEWORK

4.1 Names that WOULD NOT be accepted

As per national affiliation conditions, any Incorporated Club, Registered Business or School within Australia, which conducts, promotes or is associated with any gymsport as part of, or all of its business, may apply for affiliation.

Affiliation will only be accepted by State Associations and is based upon meeting National Affiliation Standards and abiding by the State Association's Constitution, By-Laws and adopted policies.

The State Association may reject an affiliation application where it is believed that the name proposed by the club is in conflict, or can be construed to be in conflict with State Associations, Gymnastics Australia and/or existing member clubs. Examples of this would include:-

- Using, either in full, short versions, abbreviated or other variations of, words such as Queensland, Australia, State and/or National as part of the club's name
- Using, either in full or variations of, words that can be construed to sound as if it is a peak gymnastics body through inclusion of such words as High Performance centre and/or centre of excellence
- Using words and/or combination of words, that are already formally recognised through other club memberships either in full or part there off.

5. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

5.1 Prior Affiliation Exclusion from Policy

Any club who has been affiliated with a State Association and in so being has been listed on the national membership database, prior to 30 June 2003 with a name that would be considered to breach the above policy will be permitted to maintain their name and affiliation with the State Association, due to their membership being previously accepted.

5.2 Privacy Policy

In accordance with National Privacy Laws, Gymnastics Australia has a Privacy Statement in place. This statement outlines regulations governing the collection, use, disclosure, access and protection of personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act. Gymnastics Australia will only disclose information in accordance with this statement.

6. APPEALS AND GRIEVANCE

All members have the opportunity to appeal and/or lodge a grievance to the relevant management levels. Further details are contained in the GA Grievance and Appeals policy document.

7. CHANGES TO THE POLICY

Changes to this policy may be submitted by GA Board, State Associations and National Sports Management Committees for review and approval by the GA Board. Once a change has been approved, the policy will be updated in the official GA policy register and on the Intranet and circulated to GA Board, State Associations and relevant SMC.

In addition, Gymnastics Australia is committed to ensuring all policies are up-to-date and reflect current practices. The latest review date is recorded at the beginning of each policy.