



United Twirl England Health and Safety Policy

UNITED TWIRL ENGLAND (UTE, we, our, us) is committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of its Athletes, Officials, Spectators and any other persons e.g. visitors, contractors, who attend a UTE event.

This statement of our health and safety policy sets out our main aims and objectives in this area and outlines the ways in which we go about fulfilling these aims and objectives. Our policy statement has been drawn up in the light statutory health and safety requirements and the common law duty of care.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Board.

Note: The term 'athlete' describes any person partaking in the sport of baton twirling. References to 'parents' should be read as parents and carers inclusively. 'Technical Members' describes coaches, judges, club directors registered with UTE.

Our agreed aims and objectives are as follows.

- To manage the risks associated with our activities so that accidents and work-related ill-health can be avoided.
- To ensure that all equipment and apparatus that we use is fit for purpose, regularly inspected and properly maintained.
- To provide all our staff and volunteers with the induction, supervision, instruction and training, necessary for the proper performance of their duties
- To provide a safe environment for our volunteers and members.
- To fulfil the health and safety responsibilities that we may have for other persons visiting or working on the premises we are using.

Organisation

The overall responsibility for health and safety rests with the safeguarding officer and chairperson of UTE and those responsible for managing the implementation of the Health and Safety Policy.



Health and Safety at Competitions

General Safety Measures

- Venue Safety: Ensure the competition venue is safe and free from hazards. This includes proper lighting, clean floors, and adequate space for performances¹.
- First Aid: Availability of first aid kits and trained personnel on-site to handle any injuries or emergencies.

Athlete Safety

- Warm-Up Areas (where it is practical, and space allows) - Designated areas for participants to warm up before their performances to prevent injuries.
- Twirling must not take place in any other area of the building or arena.
- This area will be always monitored.

Judging and Regulation

- Child Protection : Judges and officials are trained in child protection to ensure the safety and well-being of young participants.
- Routine Evaluation: Judges are trained to evaluate routines while considering the safety of the moves performed.

Event Management

- Emergency Procedures : Clear emergency procedures in place, including evacuation plans and emergency contact numbers.
- Health and Safety Notes Specific notes added regarding safety at competitions, ensuring all participants and organisers are aware of the guidelines.



General Safety Measures:

- **Equipment Checks:** Regular inspections of batons and other equipment to ensure they are in good condition and safe to use.
- **Crowd Control:** Measures to manage the audience, ensuring they do not interfere with the performance area.

Participant Safety:

- **Hydration Stations:** Availability of water stations to keep participants hydrated, especially during long events.
- **Injury Prevention Workshops:** Sessions on injury prevention techniques and proper baton handling.

Event Management:

- **Communication Plan:** A clear communication plan for emergencies, including how to quickly disseminate information to all.

Accessibility:

- Ensuring the venue is accessible to all participants including those with disabilities.

This comprehensive policy helps ensure that UTE events are conducted in a safe and secure environment for everyone involved. If you have any specific questions or need further details, please contact denise.pearse@unitedtwirlengland.org