



March 2025

## Gymnastics Camp Programs and Child Care Licensing Requirements

### ***Did you know that certain gymnastics camps might need to obtain child care licensing?***

A provincial health authority regulation may require clubs to obtain an Occasional Child Care License for camp style program activities (camps) that involve children under the age of 6.

As per provincial law, Gymnastics BC has no ability to intervene in or influence whether a gymnastics facility is required to obtain a child care license. Furthermore, we are not experts in the area of child care licensing and have limited ability to provide assistance or support. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure compliance with all legislated requirements regarding child care licensing.

### **Background**

The BC Child Care Licensing Regulation ([www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/332\\_2007](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/332_2007)) mandates that all facilities providing programs or services to greater than 2 children, without the accompaniment of a parent or caregiver, must be appropriately licensed.

However, most regular gymnastics programs are exempt from this regulation, as are most camp activities for children over the age of 6. The full exemption can be reviewed in "Division 2 - Exemptions from the Act" in the regulation ([www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/332\\_2007#division\\_d2e599](http://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/332_2007#division_d2e599)).

If your club offers camp programming, please consider the following questions:

- Does your club operate **summer camp** programs (between the months of June to September) for children who will be under the age of **6**, on or before December 31st of the calendar year in which the summer camp activity(ies) will take place?
- Does your club operate **day camp** programs (between the months of September to June) for children who will be below the age of **5**, on or before December 31st of the calendar year in which the day camp activity(ies) will take place?
- Do your camp programs include activities beyond gymnastics? For example, do they feature additional activities such as snack time, arts and crafts, free play etc.?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you are strongly encouraged to review the following information carefully.

### **If You Think Your Camps May Require a License**

Each Regional Health Authority is responsible for administering and enforcing the BC Child Care Licensing Regulation ([www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/332\\_2007](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/332_2007)) in their geographic region. As such, there may be differences in information and requirements between regions.

Please consult the licensing information relevant to your health region. To find out which health region you belong to, please visit:

[www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/partners/health-authorities/regional-health-authorities](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/partners/health-authorities/regional-health-authorities)

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### **Child Care Licensing information by Health Region**

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#### **Fraser Health**

[www.fraserhealth.ca/health-topics-a-to-z/child-care/resources-for-child-care-operators/child-care-licence-applications](http://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-topics-a-to-z/child-care/resources-for-child-care-operators/child-care-licence-applications)

#### **Interior Health**

[www.interiorhealth.ca/information-for/child-care-and-community-care-home-providers/licensing](http://www.interiorhealth.ca/information-for/child-care-and-community-care-home-providers/licensing)

#### **Island Health**

[www.islandhealth.ca/our-services/community-care-facilities/licensing/child-care/licensing](http://www.islandhealth.ca/our-services/community-care-facilities/licensing/child-care/licensing)

#### **Northern Health**

[www.northernhealth.ca/services/community-care-facility/licensing/child-care-providers](http://www.northernhealth.ca/services/community-care-facility/licensing/child-care-providers)

#### **Vancouver Coastal Health**

[www.vch.ca/en/service/community-care-facilities/licensing](http://www.vch.ca/en/service/community-care-facilities/licensing)

If, after reviewing this information, you have any questions regarding whether your club's camp programs require a child care license or if you intend to apply for one, we strongly encourage you to contact your local licensing office for assistance.

#### **Other useful links**

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#### **Rules for Operating a Licensed Day Care**

[www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/information-for-partners-providers/rules-operating-licensed-day-care](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/information-for-partners-providers/rules-operating-licensed-day-care)

#### **Open a Licensed Child Care Facility**

[www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/information-for-partners-providers/licensed-child-care-facility](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/information-for-partners-providers/licensed-child-care-facility)