



Horsham Green Gym

Volunteering Policy - January 2019

Volunteering for Horsham Green Gym and making Personal Disclosures

Benefits of Volunteering

We recognise that most people can benefit from participating in voluntary work. It has been pointed out that volunteering can have particular benefits. We are confident that volunteering for Horsham Green Gym can provide these outcomes collectively for all: with the right mix of talent, skills and potential.

For any participant, volunteering can:

- Bring you into contact with new people and potentially new friends, at a time when perhaps past social contacts have been disrupted;
- Boost your self-confidence and self-esteem, when these have taken a knock;
- Help restore a stable pattern and provide useful routine in your life;
- Help develop new skills, knowledge and experience – both social and practical;
- Provide the satisfaction of contributing to a team that makes a difference to the environment;
- Be useful as experience to include in your c.v. that might prove to be attractive to a potential employer.

Horsham Green Gym welcomes new members, including those with a history of offending.

Our top priority is the safety and security of all participants: volunteers and service users as well as those with a history of offending who may have convictions.

However, we need to be confident that we can ensure the safety and security of everyone, especially those who are vulnerable as a result of their age or other factors.

As a consequence, we reserve the right not to offer, or withdraw volunteering opportunities to people who disclose, or fail to disclose they have a history of offending with unspent convictions.

Horsham Green Gym cannot provide volunteering opportunities to individuals with unspent convictions for sexual or violent offences. That's because of the risk this poses to others who participate in our activities, especially those who are known to be vulnerable people.

Making Personal Disclosures

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of volunteers and participants all prospective Horsham Green Gym volunteers will be asked to complete a declaration confirming they have no unspent convictions for sexual or violent offences before they will be allowed to work with us.

For further advice on volunteering if you have a history of offending, see:-

- *NACRO www.nacro.org.uk is the UK's dedicated, confidential, national resettlement helpline and online service for people with a history of offending. They provide expert advice and advocacy to people with a criminal record, as well as expert advice and support on suitable training.*
- *Unlock www.unlock.org.uk is an independent award-winning charity, providing trusted information and advice services for people with convictions.*
- *For more information on unspent convictions, please refer to hub.unlock.org.uk/ and search for 'Rehabilitation of Offenders'*