# STRETCHING AND FLEXIBILITY

## **OVERVIEW**

- The Body relies on being stretched, much like a car needs regular servicing.
- Unfortunately, many people avoid stretching, or don't execute it properly.
- Stretching is very important to do before and after exercising to ensure each day can help calm the mind, providing a mental break and giving your body a chance to recharge.

#### SOME BENEFITS OF STRETCHING AND FLEXIBILITY

# **Improves Flexibility:**

Being flexible is beneficial for everyday life. It allows you to push your body beyond its comfort zone, thus increasing your overall physical ability.

#### **Improves Range of Motion:**

Relaxed muscles will more easily stretch which allows the motions to be wider in range.

# **Improves Circulation:**

Stretching increases the blood flow to your muscles, thus improving your circulation.

#### **Relieves Stress:**

Stretching relaxes tense muscles that often accompany stress. This helps relax the mind as well.

## **Injury Prevention and Recovery:**

Stretching helps condition the muscles and joints, thus helping to prevent injuries and reduce recovery time.

## **Improves Posture and Technique:**

Stretching prevents muscles and joints from seizing up and improves elasticity, allowing better posture and technique.

# WHEN YOU DON'T STRETCH

- Muscles become tight
- Decreased mobility
- Decreased muscle coordination
- Increased risk of injuries

