Safeguarding Bulletin

December 2024

This Month's Focus – The Role of a Safeguarding Officer

Many people think being a Safeguarding Officer means you must make decisions about safeguarding cases. However, as a Safeguarding Officer the National Governing Bodies (NGB's) are not asking you to investigate concerns, you just need to be a point of contact and report any concerns to your NGB Lead Safeguarding Officer.

We advise that a Safeguarding Officer has the following skills:

- Basic administration and secure record maintenance.
- Communication skills.
- Experience working with people in a safeguarding context is desirable.

Club Safeguarding Officers should be:

- Enthusiastic about creating a safe and positive environment in our sport.
- Given access to information and training appropriate to the role.
- Clearly identified to all members with their contact details and preferably a photograph, via handbooks, web sites, noticeboards or similar.
- The first port of call for any member of the bowls club or county association to report a safeguarding concern.
- Promoting safeguarding information to their county association or club members.
- Reporting all safeguarding concerns to the NGB Safeguarding Officer via their County Safeguarding Officer. The County Safeguarding Officer will also report concerns to the Lead Officer of your NGB.

If you are interested in becoming a Safeguarding Officer or are already in post and you have questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch!

<u>Useful contacts & links - Bowls Development Alliance</u>

Coach Bowls

Coach Bowls have new courses for safeguarding. The Safeguarding Awareness course is suitable for coaches, umpires and a range of volunteers. This course and the Safeguarding Officer course can be accessed via the below link.

Our Courses | Coach Bowls

Awareness Days

December 2nd – National Grief Awareness Week <u>Home – The Good</u> <u>Grief Trust</u>

December 5th – International Volunteers
Day <u>INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY</u> <u>December 5, 2024 - National Today</u>













Weeks of Learning

Our week of learning is back on the week commencing January 20th. The safeguarding focus is "Safeguarding Children and Young People"

Sign up here:

Education - Bowls Development
Alliance