

Safeguarding Bulletin

December 2023

This Month's Focus – Information Sharing

Confidentiality refers to guidelines within bowls about when information can be shared, with whom and rules around when it is not appropriate to share information. Every effort should be made to ensure that confidentiality is maintained for all concerned. However, there are circumstances when it is important that information is shared including to report or prevent harm to a child or an adult. The BDA Safeguarding policies for children and adults contain details of the confidentiality and disclosure requirements to support safeguarding of both groups. Information should be handled and disseminated on a need-to-know basis only. This includes the following people:

- Club and/or County Safeguarding Officer
- NGB Safeguarding Officer
- Parents/carers of the person who is alleged to have been abused (if the concerns relate to the parent or carer, seek advice from the NGB Safeguarding Officer, who will liaise with Children's Social Care services, about sharing information)
- Person making the allegation
- Children's Social Care / Adult Social Care / Police Information should be stored in a secure place with access limited to designated people, in line with data protection laws (e.g. that information is accurate, regularly updated, relevant and secure). Referrals through to the NGB Safeguarding Officer and/or the BDA Lead Safeguarding Officer will be stored using 'My Concern'.

To find out about the "7 Golden Principles" of Information Sharing please follow the link: [The-seven-golden-rules-to-sharing-information.pdf \(safeguarding.network\)](https://www.safeguarding.network/The-seven-golden-rules-to-sharing-information.pdf)

The Role of the Safeguarding Officer

Our week of learning in January focuses on the role of the Safeguarding Officer – to find out more you can join up by following this link: [Education - Bowls Development Alliance](#)

Other resources to support Safeguarding Officers can be found here: [Resources - Bowls Development Alliance](#)

Awareness Days

3rd December – International Day of Persons with Disabilities [International Day of Persons with Disabilities | United Nations](#)

4th December – National Grief Awareness Week [Home – The Good Grief Trust](#)

Ann Craft Trust

Ann Craft Trust have a variety of resources that you can use to increase your knowledge around safeguarding. You can learn more about different categories of safeguarding, safer cultures, mental health and wellbeing.

[Safeguarding Resources & Guides - ACT \(anncrafttrust.org\)](#)

Ann Craft also provide a self – evaluation tool for organisations to learn more about their culture and areas for development

[Culture in Clubs & Groups Self Evaluation - Ann Craft Trust](#)

Do you know who to contact?

Lead Safeguarding Contacts:

Bowls England – safeguarding@bowlsengland.com

EIBA – peterthompson@eiba.org.uk

ESMBA – lynn@esmba.co.uk

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Want to see a topic on our Safeguarding Bulletin? We would love your feedback! Please contact Helen Price.