

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!

[Useful contacts & links - Bowls Development Alliance](#)

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 [Home – The Good Grief Trust](#)

December 5th – International Volunteers Day [INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY - December 5, 2024 - National Today](#)



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](#)