

Safeguarding

Bowls England have updated their information around Safeguarding [September 2015]

The Bowls Development Alliance in partnership with Bowls England, English Indoor Bowling Association Ltd and the English Short Mat Bowling Association have developed a policy for the sport of bowls which outlines the four organisations commitment to ensuring that the sport provides a safe environment for all young people to play. The policy clearly outlines the processes that need to be gone through if a situation arises where a child may be at risk and provides advice on support that is available to you and who you may need to inform. The policy is not just aimed at those clubs with juniors it is also there for clubs that work closely with young people or adults with a disability or those young people or adults who are known to be at risk.

Guidelines have also been developed for those clubs who are seeking guidance on particular aspects of safeguarding for example, there is a job description for a Bowls Club Welfare Officer (formally known as the Child Protection Officer) guidance on how to safely recruit both paid and unpaid volunteers and staff and details of the Local Safeguarding Boards who offer support when needed.

Finally to save clubs time developing their own, a range of templates are available to download which can be utilised by your own club.

As part of the funding agreement from Sport England all sports have to complete a number of standards to show they are committed to ensuring their sport is safe.

The BDA is currently working towards the Advanced Standards and it is hoped by January 2016 will receive recognition that they have reached this level.

All of the documents are there to support clubs so on the rare occasion where there may be an incident the process is very clear for everyone to follow.

The three documents are currently being updated and will be available from 1st September to download from this website

These documents will be reviewed on a regular basis due to the many changes in legislation that occur and the latest copy will always be available on the BDA Safeguarding website as well as your relevant NGBs website.

Further information on Policies, Downloads, and Training can be found on www.safeguardingbowls.org

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