



# SAFEGUARDING BULLETIN

## JANUARY 2026

### Active Partnerships

#### Sport Welfare Officer Network

The Sport Welfare Officer Network (SWO network) has been created to support National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and their local clubs to promote good practice and safer sport for all.

The SWOs are working with key partners to develop a local approach to assisting and supporting club welfare officers, to create safer club environments and improved experiences for children, young people and adults.

This is a valuable free resource that your club can use to support your Club Welfare Officers. Follow the below links to find your Sport Welfare Officer and see what events and training courses are planned for 2026

[Active Partnerships Welfare Officers](#)

### Safeguarding Officer

Has your club got a Safeguarding Officer? if not now is the time to appoint one.

The attached link takes you to a short video provided by Sport England which explains the role of a safeguarding officer.

The ESMBA consider a Safeguarding Officer an important requirement for a Safe Club.

To find out more information about what this role entails, please speak to your County Safeguarding Officer

[Ann Craft Trust Safeguarding Video](#)

### Bowls Development Alliance - Weeks of Learning

What a better way to start the year, with the Bowls Development Alliance Week of Learning which runs from the 26th of January to the 31st of January 2026. Various topics are covered throughout the week but from a safeguarding perspective on the 30th and 31st of January we have:

- Adult Safeguarding – identifying signs of abuse  
This session will help you understand the key signs and indicators of abuse in adults and what to do if you have a concern.

This is ideal for club volunteers, committee members and anyone supporting participants, the session provides simple, practical guidance to help you recognise when something doesn't seem right and know the steps to take to keep people safe. No prior safeguarding knowledge required.

Follow the link below to book your free place for this session

[Week of Learning - Bowls Development Alliance](#)

### Reporting Concerns

If you have any concerns about the welfare of an adult or child in bowls, whether the issue is inside or outside the sport, talk to your club, county or ESMBA Lead Safeguarding Officer:

If you have immediate concerns about the welfare of a child or adult, contact the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency, you can also ring:

- For Children: NSPCC free helpline on 0808 800 5000.
- For Adults: the Ann Craft Trust on 0115 951 5400.

