

A club's safeguarding responsibilities

All Clubs have a duty of care to all juniors and vulnerable adults who participate in cricket.

Every club must appoint a trained Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO). It's part of a club's membership to ECB, Hertfordshire Cricket and SHPCL.

Failure to have a trained CSO negates the club's membership, and the club will then be penalised as per league rules.

Hertfordshire Cricket understands that a club may lose their CSO at an inappropriate time and to ensure continuity, clubs can apply for emergency cover procedures to ensure cricket continues.

For more details visit www.hertscricket.org In junior cricket, a trained umpire should always officiate in matches.

This is to ensure ECB directives are implemented. In Open Age Cricket, the captain is responsible to ensure that the club's duty of care is put into practice.

Many clubs now have a pre-season meeting whereby the club's safeguarding officer meets all the club's open age team captains, going through the club's responsibilities according to ECB requirements and thereby the captain(s) have a greater understanding of their roles and responsibilities, on and off the field.

These Directives relate to open age matches whether they are league or friendly or any day of the week. The CSO should ensure that all information relating to the following is included:

- All regular adult team captains, umpires and scorers must have a current Cricket Specific DBS check on the day of the match
- All under 18s on the day of the match must wear a helmet when batting
- All fielding restriction to under 18s (age as at 31st August in previous year) must be implemented
- All Fast Bowling directives to under 18s (age as at 31st August in previous year) must be implemented The captains should understand the club's policies for:
 - Changing rooms, showering and photography
 - Transporting juniors to and from matches
 - Social media, text and emails
 - Data Protection
 - Anti bullying
- The ECB restriction for juniors playing in Open Age Cricket must be observed (Note: In SHPCL Premier and Championship no under 13 can be registered to play).

The captain should also know:

- The club's reporting procedures
- Where to find the list of important phone numbers and the location of the local hospital

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Photography, filming, social media and broadcasting guidelines

The ECB wishes to ensure photography and video footage taken within cricket is done so appropriately. Parents and carers should not be prevented from taking pictures of, or filming, their children. These are normal family practices and help mark milestones in a child's life.

The introduction of proportionate controls on the use of photographic equipment (cameras, and videos, including mobile phones) is part of general safeguarding good practice in a club.

For the avoidance of doubt, these guidelines also apply to live broadcasts on social media or other platforms.

Every club will have different facility access which is why each club must create their own policy. A photocopy of this page is not a club policy nor is a blanket ban a proportionate response. All clubs, and leagues, must read the guidelines below and create a policy from this guidance that is manageable within their own environments.

The ECB is keen to promote positive images of children playing cricket and is not preventing the use of photographic or videoing equipment.

Remember that photographs are considered 'personal data' in terms of Data Protection.

Depending on the circumstance, consent from either the child, adult, or both should be sought before capturing, sharing, or publishing images where a child can be identified, including posting on the club's website etc.

In addition, as with all personal data you process, it should be processed in accordance with GDPR principles, and other relevant legislation and guidance.

Be aware that some people may use sporting events as an opportunity to take inappropriate photographs or film footage of children.

All clubs should be vigilant about this.

These individuals could attend the local cricket club allowing people to presume they are related to a child involved.

Any concerns during an event should be reported to a club official or event organiser, who should approach the individual concerned wherever possible.

It is also possible that if a picture and name was placed in the local paper, the club website etc, the information could be used inappropriately.

For this reason the ECB guidance is that a child's picture and name should not appear together.

There may be other reasons why individuals may not wish their child's photograph to be taken by someone they do not know personally, for example estranged parents looking to gain access to a child, or families that have fled abusive situations. Parents / carers must ALWAYS be offered the opportunity to withhold consent for photographs / filming of their child.

Clubs must create a policy relating to the use of cameras during matches, training sessions and on other club occasions.

The guiding principle is

Photographs/images are not to be taken at matches or training without the prior permission of the parents/carers of the child.

The Club's Safeguarding Officer should always be informed prior to taking of photographs or other images.

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Guidelines for Youth Players in SHPCL

SHPCL have issued new guidelines for youth players to participate in SHPCL for 2022 and forward.

These enforce the duty of care responsibilities that clubs, parents, and coaches have with regards to youth players who participate in SHPCL.

For the future seasons SHPCL have issued guidelines on the number of youth players per team in their league matches. It is essential clubs and coaches recognise the 'duty of care' obligations they have towards young players in Open Age Cricket.

1. Teams in Division One and below are limited to a maximum FOUR players who are in the under 13 and/ or under 14 player age group, with a maximum of 2 x U13 players.
2. The minimum age for open age cricket is the Under 13 age group.
3. Non-CAG players must be in Year 8, and 12 years old on the 1st of September of the preceding year. This applies to all club and district players who are not in a county or area squad.
4. For the avoidance of doubt, the following is not a guideline. A completed parental consent is required for all Under 13s in order that they may play open age cricket. This consent form must be completed as per current SHPCL procedures and submitted to league registration secretary for approval to play, prior to the players first match.
5. Failure to complete this registration process will lead to a 30-point league deduction for each individual non-compliant incident. Clubs, Coaches and Parents Clubs, coaches and parents must ensure that youth players who are in the Under 13s age group or older adhere to the following conditions:

The players age group is determined based upon their age on 1st September in the year preceding the current season.

- The Parent/Guardian of an Under 13 must submit a completed consent form for permission to play in the Saracens Hertfordshire Cricket League.

The consent form is available on SHPCL website. Procedures for completing the consent form are also displayed.

- This form must be submitted to the League Registration Officer by 5pm of the day prior to the player playing their first match and their permission to play must be given prior to registration on League website and prior to playing their first match.
- This form must be signed by an ECB CA Level Two Coach to verify that the players' development would be enhanced by playing in Open Age cricket.
- The club's Safeguarding Officer should keep a copy of the completed consent form in a safe place

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DISCLOSURE & BARRING SERVICE (DBS)

ECB IDENTITY VETTING (ID)

- As from January 2022 All DBS applications will be verified face-to-face.
- Hertfordshire County Cricket's objective is for ALL clubs to have their own verifier – currently approximately 70 clubs within Hertfordshire have their own verifier.
- All completed applications (except paid coaches & official) will automatically go on to UPDATE SYSTEM. (Although an applicant can opt out) which means a successful applicant will not have to renew their DBS as long as the applicant undertakes a role within cricket which requires a DBS check.

Who Requires a DBS Check?

It's mandatory in cricket for holders of the following posts to be ECB DBS checked:

Club Safeguarding Officer (all club/league/county posts)
ID Verifier
Coach (whether volunteer or paid, assisting or leading)
Coach Support Workers
Umpires
Scorers
Club Junior team Managers
County Age Group Managers
Open Age Group Team Captains and Vice-Captains
Junior Supervisors
First Aider/Physiotherapist/Medical Support
Club Volunteer coordinators
All Stars Cricket Activator

DBS Applications can be initiated by a verifier or through County Safeguarding team.

To initiate a DBS application, an applicant should contact their clubs Safeguarding Officer or email welfare@hertscricket.org. Providing the required information below.

1. Full legal first name (as on a passport or driving licence)
2. Full legal last name (as on a passport or driving licence)
3. Applicant's date of birth
4. Role applicant intends to undertake
5. Applicants email address (this must be an email address specific to the applicant)
6. Club applicant intends to represent

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