

Welfare Responsibilities for Captains & CWOs

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

This is why every club has to appoint a trained Club Welfare Officer (CWO). It's part of a club's membership to ECB, Hertfordshire Cricket and SHPCL. Failure to have a trained CWO 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 CWO 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 welfare 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 CWO should ensure that all information relating to the following is included:

- All regular adult team captains, umpires and scorers must have a current 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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