

Safeguarding News

February 2022

Focus on ... Safeguarding in Bowls

Safeguarding is all the processes used to keep people safe from harm, abuse and/or neglect. It involves raising public awareness so that communities, alongside professionals, understand their part in preventing, identifying, and responding to abuse and neglect. People in sports clubs and organisations can help by being aware of what constitutes abuse of **children and adults at risk** and by knowing what to do if they have concerns about the wellbeing of a fellow bowler or the behaviour of someone in the sport towards children or adults at risk.

Working Together to Safeguard Children

Paragraph 63 of this statutory government guidance booklet identifies the role of sports clubs and organisations in safeguarding children.

'There are many sports clubs and organisations including voluntary and private sector providers that deliver a wide range of sporting activities to children. Some of these will be community amateur sports clubs, some will be charities. All should have the arrangements described in this chapter in place and should collaborate to work effectively with the safeguarding partners as required by any local safeguarding arrangements. Paid and volunteer staff need to be aware of their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, how they should respond to child protection concerns and how to make a referral to local authority children's social care or the police if necessary.'

The Care Act 2014

This is the main piece of legislation regarding the safeguarding of Adults at Risk. Bowls clubs have many more adult members than children and so awareness of responsibilities under this law is important alongside those related to child protection. The Act defines Adults at Risk as a person who: Has care and support needs, whether or not the Local Authority is meeting any of those needs and; is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect.

Safeguarding Support Helplines

Two main helplines for safeguarding issues in sport are:

Child Protection in Sport Unit - 0116 366 5580

The Ann Craft Trust - 0115 951 5400

Types of Abuse / Safeguarding Concerns

There are more types of abuse of adults identified in the main legislation than there are for children, although this is changing all the time. The 4 main types of abuse are the same for both and can be remembered using the word PENS.

- **P**hysical abuse
- **E**motional abuse
- **N**eglect
- **S**exual abuse



Additional types of abuse for adults are:

- Financial / material abuse
- Discriminatory abuse
- Domestic violence/abuse
- Modern slavery
- Self neglect
- Organisational abuse

Prevent Duty Update

Protecting children and adults at risk from all types of grooming is a safeguarding responsibility. This includes the grooming activity of extremist groups who want to radicalise individuals. Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP) launched a website in November 2020 - actearly.uk - to encourage friends and family to act early, share concerns and seek help if they are worried that someone they care about is being radicalised.