

Bowls Clubs/Counties/Associations briefing template:

DBS changes for junior bowls activities

Use this template to brief club committees, coaches and volunteers about the DBS rule changes from 1 September 2026.

1. Bowls Club or County/Association details

Club / County/Association name	
Briefing date	
Briefing lead	
Safeguarding lead	
People attending	

2. Purpose of this briefing

The purpose of this briefing is to make sure everyone understands the DBS changes and what the club, county or association must do now the September 2026 deadline has passed.

3. Key message to share

From 1 September 2026, some supervised volunteers working with children may need an enhanced DBS check with children's barred list information as the supervision element of the legislation has now been removed.

The club, county or association must review all roles for those involving children and keep a clear record of what DBS check is needed.

4. Suggested briefing script

"We are reviewing our junior bowls roles because DBS rules changed from the 1st of September 2026. The change may affect volunteers who teach, coach, supervise, care for or transport children. We need to check each role, decide what level of DBS check is needed, and keep a written record. This is part of keeping children safe and protecting volunteers, coaches, clubs, counties and associations."

5. Roles to review

- Junior coaches
- Assistant coaches
- Volunteer helpers at junior sessions
- Event helpers working with young bowlers
- People transporting children as part of a club or county/association activity
- Any other role that involves regular contact with children under 18

6. Questions for each role

Question	Answer / notes
Does the role involve children under 18?	
Does the role involve teaching, coaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children?	
Does the person do this on more than 3 days in any 30-day period?	
Does the role involve overnight activity?	
Does the role involve transporting children as part of a club, county or association activity?	
What DBS check is needed?	
Who will arrange the check?	
Target completion date	

*If the role involves teaching, coaching, training, instructing, caring for or supervising children under the age of 18 years the person will require a minimum of an Enhanced DBS check.

However, if they carry out the activity

- on more than 3 days in any 30-day period
- once overnight, between 2am and 6am

Then this will require an Enhanced with Children's Barred list DBS check.

We suggest that in the role of Safeguarding Officer you will be caring for children and as you may carry out that role on more than 3 days in any 30-day period an Enhanced with Children's Barred List DBS is requested.

7. Actions agreed

Action	Owner	Due date	Status
List all roles involving children under 18.			
Check which roles meet the DBS conditions.			
Identify who needs an enhanced DBS check with children's barred list information.			
Arrange any required DBS checks.			
Record decisions and keep them securely.			
Review progress before 31 st December 2026			

8. Questions raised during the briefing

Question	Answer / follow-up needed	Owner
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9. Sign-off

Name	Role	Signature / confirmation	Date
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