



Safeguarding Bulletin

January 2026

Happy New Year from the Bowls Development Alliance and welcome to the first Safeguarding Bulletin of the year.

And what a better way to start the year but 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.

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](#)

Roadshows 2026

We are pleased to launch our 2026 BDA Roadshows, created to support all bowls clubs. Each event will offer practical workshops, expert guidance, hands on sessions and opportunities to connect with other clubs.

Working alongside our National Governing Body partners, the roadshows aim to provide the tools, knowledge and support needed to help clubs grow, recruit new members, strengthen governance and safeguarding and build stronger links with their communities.

All roadshows are free to attend and open to every bowls club in England. Spaces are limited to two people per club.



Dates, Locations and Registration:

- **Monday 2nd February 2026, 10am-4pm** – The Parks IBC, Northumberland. [Book here](#).
- **Wednesday 4th February 2026, 10am-4pm** – Lincoln Indoor Bowls Club, Lincoln. [Book here](#).
- **Friday 6th February 2026, 10am-4pm** – Royal Leamington Spa BC, Warwickshire. [Book here](#).
- **Wednesday 11th February 2026, 9:30am-3:30pm** – Falcon IBC, Essex. [Book here](#).
- **Friday 13th February 2026, 10am-4pm** – Taunton Deane IBC, Somerset. [Book here](#).
- **Saturday 28th February 2026, 10am-4pm** (Crown Green Specific) – Fox Lane Sports Club, Leyland. [Book here](#).
- **Saturday 14th March 2026, 10am-4pm** – Lyceum Club, Port Sunlight, Wirral. [Book here](#).



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

<https://activepartnerships.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Sport-Welfare-Officer-Contact-Details-14.1.26.pdf>

<https://activepartnerships.org/events/>

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.

<https://share.google/bka9hFYgYQLxe0nPN>

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 NGB Lead Safeguarding Officer. You can also contact the BDA Lead Safeguarding Officer for advice

craig.scott@bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com

If you have immediate concerns about the welfare of a child, contact the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency, you can also ring the NSPCC free helpline on 0808 800 5000.

If you have immediate concerns about the welfare of an adult, contact the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency. Support is also available via the Ann Craft Trust on 0115 951 5400.