



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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To all clubs

Safeguarding responsibilities

Over the past few weeks the League Safeguarding Managers, Lindsay Pepper and myself, have been contacting clubs to check on their Safeguarding Officers, in particular on the following; whether there have been any personnel changes; details of DBS certification; attendance at Safe Hands courses; Safe Hands certification; and participation in ECB online Safe Hands webinars, to update their certification for the next two years.

Unfortunately, the responses have been very mixed, and it has become clear that the responsibilities of the safeguarding role are not always being taken as seriously as they should be. We fully understand that clubs are run mainly by volunteers, but clubs have a crucial duty of care, and Safeguarding Officers play a vital role in keeping children and young people in cricket safe.

It is important that club Safeguarding Officers keep their Safe Hands training up-to-date. Under normal circumstances, they are required to complete both a *Safeguarding and Protecting Children* course and a *Safe Hands* course every three years. However, as it is highly unlikely that there will be a return to face-to-face training in the near future, ECB are delivering online webinar training for Safeguarding officers. Details of how to apply for these are shown below.

Safeguarding Young Cricketers course

This is a free online course, which takes approximately one hour to complete, in which progress can be saved at any time. Safeguarding officers should complete this online course if they have not completed the Safeguarding and Protecting Children course in the last three years. An email with joining instructions will be issued approximately 24 hours after places are booked on the Safe Hands webinar below. For those who have already completed the Safeguarding Young Cricketers online course in the last three years, there is no need to repeat the course.

Safe Hands webinar

This replaces the face-to-face course. All the webinars available are suitable for both refreshing and new Club Welfare Officers. Safeguarding Officers should register [here](#), using their full name, as it appears on the DBS certificate, from an email address that is unique to them. Everyone who attends a *Safe Hands* webinar will receive a online documentation that will assist them in their role.

There are 23 roles in cricket that require a DBS check, not all of which are applicable in our league, but most are. These include captains, vice captains, coaches, scorers, All Star volunteers, etc. A club Safeguarding Officer must ensure that everyone holding these positions has a current DBS.

All clubs must also have a *Safeguarding Policy Statement*, a template for which can be found online.

Compliance with these Safeguarding requirements under the new SHMS (Safe Hands management system) is necessary for new or continuing Clubmark accreditation from 31 July 2021.

As a new league we want to ensure that we start as we mean to continue – not just in how we perform on the field of play, but in how we manage our administration. Please ensure that Safeguarding administration at your club is beyond criticism.

If you need advice or help, please contact the [Lindsay Pepper](#) or [myself](#), or the county Safeguarding Officer, [Ray Knowles](#).

Many thanks for your co-operation!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maurice E. Gilliatt'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a stylized 'G'.

Maurice Gilliatt