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Welcome to the May newsletter

We have the following updates to share with you:-

- Cricket Regulator Update
- Smartsheet Low-Level Concerns Reporting Process
- Changes to WhatsApp - Reduced age limit to 13
- Safeguarding Training for Talent Pathway
- DBS Update
- Training slides for Venues - Senior Stewards and Managers
- Cricket Regulator Inbox & IT System Reminders
- Live Streaming Guidance
- Individual Safeguarding Plans
- Case Management Investigation/threshold update
- Cornwall Safeguarding Posters



Update from the Cricket Regulator

The Cricket Regulator established in December 2023 is ring-fenced from the ECB. The Cricket Regulator reports to the Regulatory Board, which is independent of the ECB. The Cricket Regulator seeks to bring further independence to the regulatory processes within cricket, to give greater assurance around the separation between this area and the remainder of the ECB, to avoid the perception of a conflict of interest for the ECB as both the game's regulator and promoter. The Safeguarding Team work with colleagues from across the ECB, Sport England and third parties to ensure it reflects changes in practice and sets standards supported by externally challenged thinking.

Currently the team are in the process of updating guidance which reflects the changes to branding from the ECB to the Cricket Regulator. It is felt that changes to branding on documents will be phased and the use of the current Safe Hands branding will continue due to its consistency across systems, policy and in the recreational cricket environment.

We will continue to update the network on any changes which come about as the Cricket Regulator develops its practices in supporting the delivery of the game.

There is a new website which has been established, [click here](#) to see .

Please note all guidance is also still hosted on the ECB website

Smartsheet Low-Level Concerns Reporting Process

Thanks again for your hard work and support with this process. We are at the start of the season but are seeing the benefits of having this system in place. To date 452 concerns have been recorded, 159 already for the 2024 season. We have already identified 5 cases where a Subject has come up 3 or more times. We have a process in place to triage these on an individual case by case basis, the outcome of which vary. They may be dealt with locally and not necessarily allocated to a Case Officer in the Cricket Regulator Team.

Here is a breakdown of the types of concerns:

Type of Concern	Number
Blank - no "Type of referral" has been selected from the dropdown	242
Poor practice	91
Other	86
Bullying by peers	20
Bullying by adults	13

As you can see, there are a high number of concerns where the dropdown box has been left blank. It's really important that you go into your worksheets and select a category for each of the concerns. This will be vital, moving forwards to ensure we are collating accurate data around trends and culture which will inform how we can proactively support you.

Here is the link to the guide to help you [Low-Level Concerns Smartsheet Completion](#). It can also be located in the CSO SharePoint folder.

There are also 63 concerns which have been categorised as "Other." Please only select "Other" if none of the other categories apply. If you notice you're selecting this category often then please consider whether we need to add a new category to this drop down and let us know.

Our next step is to identify trends and to provide meaningful reports to support you in proactively managing Low-Level concerns. To do this we need to ensure that Worksheets are fully completed.

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Here are a few top tips (the attached guide is there as a reminder)

- Once a referral form has been submitted, go into your Smartsheet Worksheet and complete the remaining drop-down boxes.
- Subject name – importance of accurate subject name for triaging purposes. The system is designed to flag 3 or more case but, in some instances, we are noticing that incorrect spelling of names impacts on the identification of anyone coming to notice more than once.
- Subject name is the name of the person whose behaviour you are concerned about. Details of the person/people who are impacted by this behaviour should go into the Concern- details field.
- Comments box - Please remember to check the comments box for any triage notes or flags.

We have made a number of important changes to Smartsheet based on your feedback.

- Self-Referral option added to the “Type of Referral” drop down list
- Ability to select more than one option.
- If you do need to select “Other”, a free format box is now available to add text.

Notifications - If you are giving the referral form out to clubs to complete and haven't already requested email notifications for new concerns, please contact Fiona.OKelly@Cricketregulator.co.uk.

Finally ... if you haven't already taken up the opportunity Fiona O'Kelly is offering you the opportunity of a 1:1 support call if you would like a run through of the process and/or have any queries. To arrange a call please email Fiona.OKelly@Cricketregulator.co.uk.

Changes to WhatsApp - reduced age limit to 13.

Sadly, we have no control over the recent change in age limit within WhatsApp being reduced to 13. It is a very disappointing move by META to reduce the age limit.

However, this does mean that the safeguarding precautions / standards that we set remain firm, and we should all be extra vigilant and ensure the guidance is clear that no contact occurs directly between an adult and a child on this or any other social media platform.

We would recommend that you add this to your next newsletter and ensure your clubs are aware of the change and offer them support.

If you attended one of the Social Media webinars in April, you will know that this was covered in those sessions and hopefully provided some further reassurance as to how we can mitigate risk.

Please see this [useful guide](#) for Parents/Carers with more information.

Safeguarding Training for Talent Pathway

Thank you to all of you who attended a regional session to learn more about training specifically designed to be delivered to all staff who work within our talent pathways. I know some of you have already started to deliver courses, which is great. Please share any feedback via email to Claire.Bassett@Cricketregulator.co.uk so we can continue to develop and improve our resources.

The Safeguarding for Talent Pathways course template is now set up on CVENT following a successful testing process. Please ensure when creating your event, you choose "Use template" as the creation method and add the relevant venue in CRM to ensure we capture completions.

Two certificate templates are also available. The first is one which you are able to print and handwrite details on, the second is in an editable format and can be sent via email to attendees. It is completely up to you, which option you would prefer to use. The templates were attached to the email sent to CSO's on the 1st May. If you've missed it please get in touch. Both versions can also be found on the CSO SharePoint site.

Here is the link to the relevant folder. [Talent Pathway Training](#)

DBS Update

We have added the role of Event Safeguarding Officer to the DBS system. This option is available to choose for any staff or volunteers responding to or managing safeguarding concerns on event days at your venues. We are delighted that counties have or are considering recruitment for this role to support safeguarding across your organisations.

As we recently communicated, a recent review of the information held by our DBS service provider has highlighted a number of individuals who failed to sign up to the update service, once receiving their DBS check in 2023. These individuals may believe they have a valid ECB DBS, but this means their DBS expired after 1 year. With this in mind and wishing to work proactively we have taken the decision to contact those individuals who are affected, whose DBS status recently expired in 2024 (Jan-April). We hope by proactively contacting those individuals, we can ensure the right message is received by those affected and that the correct course of action is taken, if required.

We will be communicating with these individuals to direct them to contact their Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) if they are still in regulated activity, so a new DBS application can be initiated. There is no specific action required of County Boards however we are mindful that once individuals receive this communication and contact their Club Safeguarding Officer, there may be some support for CSO's required where appropriate.

DBS reminder for Overseas Players - Any overseas player needs to complete a [Non-UK-Resident-Vetting-Form-2024.pdf](#)

Applicants who live abroad and are visiting the UK for the cricket season to play, coach or to attend a course are not eligible for our online Enhanced DBS checks.

They should instead apply using the Non-UK vetting form. Alongside the application form the applicant needs to send a scanned copy of their visa (if applicable), an overseas police check (covering their time abroad and dated no more than 3 months prior to arrival in the UK) and a copy of their passport.

A Non-UK resident will not receive a certificate, but instead will receive email confirmation of the clearance to work with children for the season. If they are already in the UK they need to be assistant coaching/rule of two until clearance is given.

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Training slides for Venues - Senior Stewards and Managers

We have created a brief 30-minute presentation for delivery at a workshop for Managers and Senior Stewards. These slides may come in useful for you to adapt for your own training, please feel free to use.

Here is the link [MCC Steward Safeguarding Training May 2024 - Final Draft.pptx](#)

Cricket Regulator Inbox & IT System Reminders

A reminder that the Cricket Regulator inbox is to be used for referrals and urgent matters **only**.

All safeguarding advice, support, follow ups, changes to attendance etc, should be done directly through your CSA.

It is crucial that we keep the main inbox clear, so the serious issues are dealt with promptly and efficiently. Here are the useful contact emails for other queries you may have:-

- Link to ECB Customer Support Help Centre - <https://ecbcs.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>
- DBS Team - dbs@ecb.co.uk
- Safe Hands helpdesk – safehands@ecb.co.uk
- E-Learning – elearning@ecb.co.uk
- Coaching System Support / CRM - coach.education@ecb.co.uk
- Data concerns - privacy@ecb.co.uk
- CVENT Support - Log in to CVENT and click on 'Help & Support' to raise a support ticket

Live Streaming Guidance

Please note that the guidance on photo, video and live streaming is in the process of being amended to reflect our safeguarding policies. The main change for you to be aware of is the **increase in age from 16 years to 18 years**. Consent to live streaming is required from a parent/carer of any player U18 (as opposed to U16 as per previous guidance.)

An updated version of the full policy will be available in the Safeguarding Kit Bag shortly.



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Individual Safeguarding Plans (ISGP)

We have created an Individual Safeguarding Plan for any U18 players who have been selected to play for an England team. This has captured information by way of a detailed player profile which provides additional information about that player's needs, to support staff and to risk assess their inclusion within that environment.

If you have any U18 players in your academies who have been selected to play in your first teams, then we recommend you complete an ISGP.

A blank copy can be found on the CSO SharePoint site [ISGP - BLANK.docx](#)

For any queries with regards to the detail to be included in this report, please contact [Claire Bassett](#)

Case Management Investigation / Threshold Update

The Case Management Team have had a busy start to the year and would like to extend thanks to you for supporting the network to recognise and raise safeguarding concerns.

The standard of reporting is continuing to improve as is the communication between yourselves and the team.

There has been a steady increase in threshold referrals since 2022. We see this increase as a positive and it demonstrates the impact of the work being undertaken by yourselves across your counties. Thank you for your continued proactive work which is having a positive effect on making the game a safer place.

Best practise example from Cornwall Cricket

Here is a [link](#) to two posters that Cornwall have created and shared with their clubs.

The Listening to Young People ones have also gone out as small A6 laminated versions for coaches to take in kit bags/scorebooks to matches and training sessions.

Cornwall are happy to share with you all, feel free to adopt.

Great work!!



Contact the Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@cricketregulator.co.uk

Safeguarding Referral Form

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/safeguarding/share-a-concern>