



Great News! DBS Applications to go on line from the Autumn

Online DBS applications have already begun with All Stars cricket, and from the Autumn all applications can be done on line. Paper applications will stop on 31/12/17. See below for more information

Safe Hands Courses 2017

There are no more Safe Hands courses planned for 2017. The next ones will be advertised in the Autumn and take place in Spring 2018. Please do [register your interest](#) in attending one – if there are enough people in your area, I will do my best to arrange a course there.

New Season Underway

Hopefully you are all having a good Season, with plenty of children attending and everyone happy! June is often a time when things start to get a bit fraught; school exam pressures, competitive parents, children falling out, coaches' patience being pushed to the limits (often by parents and children)... If this happens at your club, take a step back and look at the problems. Encourage staff to talk to the children, listen to them and see if a simple solution can be found. Reassure your coaches they are doing a great job and engender a culture where the coaches support each other. Even a 5 minute coach debrief after the session can help. Listen to your coaches too, and if one of them is finding it tough – make sure they are supported. Your head coach may be able to swap the coaching groups around, or one may be able to assist another if he/she is finding the group difficult. It is far better to be proactive to ensure everything runs smoothly, than to have to react to a situation that has escalated. You do not have to do this yourself – but make sure someone within the club is doing it.

DBS On line

The process will be straightforward and more information will be provided when this is rolled out to everyone in the Autumn but in a nutshell:

- Applicants will be given log in details and once complete, their application will be forwarded electronically to the document checker
- Applicant meets with document checker who looks at the required documents against details on their phone/iPad/laptop, and completes details as requested and submits the form electronically
- DBS gets issued quickly (usually!) and sent to applicant often within a few days
- ECB gets automatically notified of DBS information so in most all cases there is no need to send the DBS in to the ECB
- Applicants are automatically signed up for the Update Service unless they “opt out” – so with online applications, no need usually to chase your coaches every 3 years to renew it!

ECB is aware some people do not have internet access so more information will follow.

Safeguarding – an Agenda Item

In the last newsletter, you will recall I asked all CWOs to ensure there is an agenda item for Safeguarding at every meeting. Clubmark clubs

should already be doing this – but all clubs need to. It might seem like more work for you, the CWO – but safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole Committee – make sure they do discuss aspects of safeguarding regularly and that they take responsibility for implementing some of it.

Document Checkers for DBS disclosures

All document checkers will need to register for the new system. If you are an existing document checker and haven't done so, please e mail safeguarding@ecb.co.uk and ask them to register you.

We encourage all CWOs to become document checkers as this makes it much easier for your club members. If your club does not have a document checker, the ECB will now allow others to apply to become one. E mail me with your name, date of birth, address, position at the club and the e mail address you wish to use and I will manage this process. All document

checkers need a DBS so if you don't have one, you will need to complete one.

CPSU Webinars

The Child Protection in Sport Unit has Webinars every couple of months on safeguarding issues in sport. You can register to join the Webinar, or you can view the Webinars later. Recent topics have included:

- Young People in Positions of Trust in Sport (focusing on the transition from player to coach/helper)
- Harmful sexual behaviour in sport
- Promoting positive parenting in sport

Webinars planned for later this year include:

- Understanding and promoting parental involvement in sport (2 October)
- Empowering young people to speak out about bullying (16 November)

See [CPSU Website](#) for more details.

Questions and Answers

Q. Can people other than All Stars volunteers apply for a DBS online?

A. At the moment only All Stars volunteers can apply on line. From the Autumn (date to be announced) everyone in the game who requires a DBS can apply on line – see above.

Q. Should we be doing a mini safeguarding induction for new coaches at our club?

A. This is certainly something we encourage and helps make your volunteers feel valued. A ten minute sit down with new coaches and other volunteers just to go over the Club's Codes of Conduct; rules about transporting children, contacting children by phone/social media and photographs; reminding them of good practice around children including listening to them, treating them equally, not tolerating bullying or bad language; and particularly for some new young coaches – remind them they are in a position of trust and responsibility and they are there as a coach, not a play mate! One of the most important messages to get across though is to act on any concerns they have, however small or trivial they may seem – report them to you.

Q. If someone comes out of prison can they resume activities at the Club?

*A. **Not straight away.** Let me - or Alan - know if anyone at your club (or another club you know of) is in this position. We will look at the circumstances and if there could be a risk to children or others in cricket, will refer on to the ECB. If the ECB has already suspended him/her this suspension remains in place until they remove it.*

With many thanks again for the valuable role you carry out.

Bridget Owen
County Welfare Officer

Alan McCawley
Deputy County WO