



CHURCHDOWN VILLAGE BOWLS

ADULT SAFEGUARDING POLICY

1. **Policy Statement**

Churchdown Village Bowls Club (CVBC) is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and inclusive environment for all adults, free from all forms of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

2. **Policy Aims**

To ensure the safety and protection of all members, reassuring parents, and supporting club members in understanding and addressing safeguarding concerns.

3. **Principles**

- a. Everyone who participates in bowls at our club is entitled to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment. All members are treated with respect and dignity, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, disability, or any other characteristic.
- b. The welfare of adults at risk is paramount.
- c. Churchdown Village Bowls Club is committed to helping all members of the club to accept their responsibility to safeguard adults at risk, from harm and abuse.
- d. Churchdown Village Bowls Club will create a culture where everyone feels comfortable raising concerns or reporting incidents.
- e. Churchdown Village Bowls Club will maintain confidentiality while ensuring that all suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- f. All members of Churchdown Village Bowls Club who have any concerns with adults at risk in bowls have a responsibility to report concerns to their club Safeguarding Officer.

4. **Definitions**

- a. An Adult at Risk is defined in The Care Act 2014 as:

An individual aged 18 years and over who has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) AND; is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, AND; as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

- b. Safeguarding Adults is defined in Care and Support Statutory Guidance as: Protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse and neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to the views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action. This must recognise that adults

sometimes have complex interpersonal relationships and may be ambivalent, unclear or unrealistic about their personal circumstances.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

a. CVBC Committee

Ensure all members are aware of the Club's Safeguarding Policies for both Children and Adults and are given the opportunity to receive appropriate training on safeguarding issues and receive updates on relevant policies and procedures as required.

b. Safeguarding Officer

Our Safeguarding Officer is Mrs Janet Pearce. She has completed the mandatory Safeguarding training provided by Bowls England and has a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check. Her contact details are below and also on the CVBC website (including a photograph) and on the Notice board within the clubhouse.

Mrs Janet Pearce
Email: janetsp@blueyonder.co.uk
Tel: 07971 097673

Our Safeguarding Officer is not required to make a judgement regarding an incident.

She will listen, take all disclosures seriously and record what is disclosed in your own words and ask you to check and sign, offering support and reassure you that you have done the right thing to seek help.

She will then report the concerns to the County Safeguarding Officer who may if required escalate it to the NGB Safeguarding Officer. Channelling all safeguarding concerns through NGB Safeguarding Officers should provide for a consistent approach across the sport of bowls and also allow for analysis of patterns and any training gaps.

However, in the case of an adult disclosing a situation affecting themselves to our Safeguarding Officer, they can ask for this not to go any further.

If you would prefer you can contact another committee member or either the Gloucestershire County Safeguarding Officer or the National Safeguarding Officer Bowls England direct, their contact details are:

County Safeguarding Officer – Ms Sandra Throup
Mobile: 07592 756871 Email: sandrathroup@hotmail.co.uk

National Safeguarding Officer Bowls England – Ms Juliette Maggs-Bowen
Landline: 01929 500490 Email: safeguarding@bowlsengland.com

If any member has concerns about a person working with adults at risk, you should discuss them with our Safeguarding Officer. She will be able to seek advice from the County Safeguarding Officer or the National Safeguarding Officer Bowls England. However, you can also use the details below to report your concerns.

[Safeguarding Adults in Gloucestershire](#) (for adults at risk Adults Help Desk on (01452) 426868)

c. Coaching

Presently we have one coach (Mrs Barbara Baker) within our club who has completed all the required safeguarding training and also holds has a current DBS check.

6. Safer Recruitment for staff or volunteers

Safer recruitment is a set of practices to help make sure staff and volunteers are suitable to work with adults at risk. It's a vital part of creating a safe and positive environment and making a commitment to keep members safe from harm. Safer recruitment is a continuing process of improvement for Churchdown Village Bowls Club ensuring that staff and volunteers recruited are safe to work with adults at risk and involves several practices including the application process, interview, criminal records checks (if appropriate), references and induction process.

A DBS check is only appropriate in bowls where an individual is recruited to work with children 'frequently or with intensity' (more than 3 days in a 30-day period or overnight) and will be unsupervised. This is known as regulated activity. Criminal records checks should be requested by the NGB through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

We would encourage all members to visit the Bowls England website and complete the Free Safeguarding Introduction Training which is a short, interactive introduction to safeguarding which is ideal for any bowls club member who wants to know more about safeguarding:

<https://uk.surveymonkey.com/r/BDAIntroductionToSafeguarding>

There is also an online (4 hour) course which is mandatory for a Safeguarding Officer and costs £40.00. Any member can complete the course if they would like to:

<https://www.coachbowls.org/safeguarding-officer-training/>

7. Supporting Safeguarding

Our club is committed to providing an environment where our members can share their concerns knowing it will be in strict confidence. This Safeguarding Policy is in place to protect all our members and guests. If you have any questions regarding the policy please talk to our Safeguarding Officer who will be happy to help.

If you are worried, we encourage you to talk to our Safeguarding officer who will help by answering your questions to help you understand the policy and what it means for you.

Concerns that are raised will be addressed quickly in complete confidence. Our Safeguarding officer will encourage you to make your own decision and give informed consent before escalating the concern to the County Safeguarding Officer/NGB Safeguarding Officer. During the process you will be updated on the progress and informed of the outcome as soon as possible.

8. Safeguarding Adults in Bowls

We will safeguard adults at risk by ensuring that our activities are delivered in a way which keeps all adults safe.

9. **Legislation and Government Guidance**

Legislation and Government Guidance Safeguarding Adults in all home nations is compliant with United Nations directives on the rights of disabled people and commitments to the rights of older people. It is covered by:

- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Data Protection Act 2018
- General Data Protection Regulations 2018

The practices and procedures within this policy are based on the relevant legislation and government guidance for England (There are some variations for other home nations – advice is available from the Ann Craft Trust).

- The Care Act 2014
- Care and Support Statutory Guidance 20142 - (especially chapter 14)
- The Prevent Duty – The Prevent Duty is a legal duty introduced by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The duty requires local authorities and other public bodies, such as schools, colleges, health, probation and police, to safeguard people from being drawn into terrorism.

Many other pieces of legislation also affect adult safeguarding. These include legislation about different forms of abuse and those that govern information sharing. For example, legislation dealing with:

- Murder/attempted murder
- Sexual Offences
- Forced Marriage
- Theft and Fraud
- Hate Crime
- Harassment
- Physical Assault
- Domestic Abuse/Coercive Control
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
- Online abuse
- Listing and Barring of those unsuitable to work with adults with care and support needs

There is also legislation about the circumstances in which decisions can be made on behalf of an adult who is unable to make decisions for themselves:

- Mental Capacity Act 2005

There are specific offences applying to the mistreatment of and sexual offences against adults who do not have Mental Capacity and specific offences where mistreatment is carried out by a person who is employed as a carer: e.g. wilful neglect and wilful mistreatment.

10. **Monitoring and Review**

Churchdown Village Bowls Club is affiliated with Bowls England, and we are fortunate that we are sent regular Safeguarding bulletins which include updates/guidance on safeguarding. Our Safeguarding Officer will review our policy if the updates have an impact, but at least once a year. If any member has a question regarding our Safeguarding Policy, please contact our Safeguarding officer or any member of the committee who will endeavour to answer.

Churchdown Village Bowls Club will continue to ensure all our members are able to play in a safe, friendly environment and are committed to the principles of this safeguarding policy.

Agreed and signed by:
Mr Fred Etheridge
Club President

Safeguarding Resources for Churchdown Bowls Club

Bowls England Resources:

Bowls England provides specific safeguarding policies and resources, including a comprehensive Safeguarding Children Policy and Safeguarding Adults Policy. As an affiliated club we are committed to and will comply with these policies and associated procedures.

Here are the links to the information available to you all to read. Churchdown Village Bowls Club also has their own versions of some of the procedures which are held in the Policy Folder, in the Clubhouse. If you have any questions please contact our Safeguarding Officer.

1. Safeguarding Adults Policy

<https://www.bowlsengland.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Safeguarding-Adults-Policy-V2-2022.pdf>

2. Safeguarding Children Policy

<https://www.bowlsengland.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Safeguarding-Children-Policy-V10-Feb-2022.pdf>

3. Safeguarding Officer Job Description

<https://bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/1-Safeguarding-Officer-Role-Description.pdf>

4. Safeguarding Guidelines

<https://bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com/safeguarding-guidelines/>

5. Safeguarding for parents/carers

<https://bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com/safeguarding-for-parents-carers/>

6. Safeguarding Bulletins.

<https://bowlsdevelopmentalliance.com/safeguarding-bulletins/>