

# SAFEGUARDING AND DBS CHECKS

The England and Wales Cricket Board is firmly committed to creating a safe and enjoyable environment for children to enjoy the game.

Key to this is the recruitment and vetting of the many invaluable individuals who create many rewarding experiences in cricket.

All organisations working with children have safeguarding responsibilities and clear requirements placed upon them by legislation and guidance.

This applies whether you are a club, league panel or another organisation. It is there to ensure safe recruitment practices for individuals who work with children, including policies on when to obtain a criminal records check.

The roles in cricket that require ECB vetting are:

- Welfare Officer (Club, League, County)
- Volunteer Co-ordinator
- Coach (volunteer or paid, assistant or lead)
- Umpire
- Scorer
- Colt/Junior Manager
- Age Group Manager
- Open-Age Team Captain
- Junior Supervisor
- First Aider/Physiotherapist/Medical Support

ECB DBS checks have now moved to an online system – there are no paper applications involved.

The system is quick and simple to use.

For volunteers, The ECB will also enrol you onto the Update Service which will mean that for most people, you may never have to do another DBS application in cricket.

The application has to be started by someone within cricket who knows you and the role that you are carrying out. This provides the game with an extra level of security, and prevents anyone from falsely obtaining an ECB DBS certificate if they are not actually involved in cricket.

Please contact your club welfare officer or another officer of the club to request that your application is initiated. If they are unsure how to do this, the County Board can help them. Umpires and scorers should contact Philip Radcliffe email [compliance@bradfordcl.com](mailto:compliance@bradfordcl.com)

Once your application is initiated, you will receive an email with easy-to-follow instructions to help you make your application. There is a helpdesk function within the system.

## **Lived abroad in the past five years?**

You will need to provide a local Police check or certificate of good conduct to cover your period abroad.

## **Overseas applicants**

Applicants from overseas must complete the Non UK resident vetting form and will require a local Police check or certificate of good conduct. Download the form [here](#).

### **What if my DBS check is not clear?**

All convictions, cautions and other items of information provided by the DBS certificate are assessed for their relevancy in respect of safeguarding children and an individual's suitability to work with children.

Please note that the ECB may request further information from any individual who has a conviction which is deemed to be potentially relevant.

The existence of any previous conviction(s) and/or caution(s) will not necessarily prevent an individual from being involved in cricket; that will depend on the nature and circumstance of the conviction(s)/caution(s) or information provided in relation to the Disclosure.

The ECB has a policy statement on the recruitment of ex-offenders which can be found by on their website.

### **Who will know about my criminal convictions?**

If convictions are revealed through a Vetting Check only the ECB Safeguarding Team will be aware of these, unless there is a need to share information with others in order to protect children.

All information is kept confidential and managed within a secure environment, in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act. Where information is shared, this is done in accordance with the requirements of 'Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2015'.

### **Child Safeguarding Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure**

The ECB is required to have in place arrangements for managing allegations and concerns regarding individuals and concerning the safeguarding and protection of children. These procedures are the Child Safeguarding Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures, and operate in conjunction with Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children.

The procedures provide the fair, robust and transparent procedure and systems for investigating allegations and concerns, and for managing potential risk in a proportionate manner.

Concerns may be brought to the attention of the Safeguarding Team in a number of ways, including through the DBS application process, resulting in the application of these procedures.

Strict confidentiality will be upheld with regard to any person involved in disciplinary proceedings unless there is an overriding obligation in the interests of child safety or enforcement to share information with other interested parties.