



STATEMENT: Vetting & Barring Scheme

Please see below a statement on the Vetting & Barring Scheme that was issued to Delegates at the Bowls England AGM held on Saturday 26th February 2011.

You may be aware the Government announced on 11th February 2011 that it is scaling back the Vetting and Barring Scheme.

Bowls England is looking at the detail of this in conjunction with TMG, which administers Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) applications for the sport of bowls and will issue guidance as appropriate.

At this stage, there is a requirement that Members continue with CRB applications where there is 'eligibility', which means that applications will only be processed from Members who meet one of the following criteria:

1. Regularlyⁱ teaching, training, instructing or in sole charge of children under the age of 18. This must take place on a regular basis and is not just for 'one off' events such as open days that may be attended by children under the age of 18
2. Frequently (once a week or more)ⁱⁱ caring for, teaching, training, instructing or advising children under the age of 18
3. Frequently (once a week or more) caring for, training, instructing or advising vulnerable adultsⁱⁱⁱ

Club Welfare Officers/Child Protection Officers may also apply for a CRB check should they feel that it is relevant to their role within their club or county.

Bowls England understands the Government and the CRB have indicated that they are determined to clamp down on ineligible checks, and TMG has further advised that it will refuse to process ineligible checks. Therefore Bowls England will not process CRB applications from Members unless they meet one of the above criteria.

Requesting ineligible checks creates administration burdens on Bowls England and wastes time and money.

If you are in any doubt about your personal 'eligibility' please contact TMG CRB on 0845 251 5000 in the first instance.

If you do meet the eligibility criteria, please e-mail: gwen.sabin@bowlsengland.com or telephone 01926 430686 to request a CRB application form.

ⁱ There is currently no clear definition of 'regularly' available at this stage.

ⁱⁱ 'Frequently' is currently defined as once a week or more or three times in a month.

ⁱⁱⁱ A vulnerable adult is a person who is aged 18 years or older and:

- is living in residential accommodation, such as a care home or a residential special school;
- is living in sheltered housing;
- is receiving domiciliary care in his or her own home;
- is receiving any form of health care;
- is detained in a prison, remand centre, young offender institution, secure training centre or attendance centre or under the powers of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- is in contact with probation services;
- is receiving a welfare service of a description to be prescribed in regulations;
- is receiving a service or participating in an activity which is specifically targeted at people with age-related needs, disabilities or prescribed physical or mental health conditions. (age-related needs includes needs associated with frailty, illness, disability or mental capacity);
- is an expectant or nursing mothers living in residential care;
- is receiving direct payments from a local authority/HSS body in lieu of social care services;
- requires assistance in the conduct of his or her own affairs.