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WHAT

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) helps employers make safer recruitment decisions.

For Bowls Clubs it helps the club ensure that the volunteer/employee is safe to hand the responsibility of the position that they are in.

There are four levels of DBS checks available, for bowls the standard is enhanced level DBS.

The minimum age at which someone can be asked to apply for a criminal record check is 16 years old.



SEVEN MINUTE BRIEFING

DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE (DBS)

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WORKFORCE

When your DBS comes through it will list Child Workforce on it, this is standard and it does not mean that you cannot work with Adults.

In order to be eligible for an Adult Workforce label on your DBS, you must work with adults that receive a health or social care service in a health or social care environment.

As sports organisations, we are not eligible for this check.

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COACHES

All coaches must have attended a Safeguarding Course by 1st April 2023. New Coaches have twelve months from certification to attend a course.

As of 1st October 2022 all Coaches, no matter what level, must have a DBS check in the name of their National Governing Body. Obtained through Coach Bowls.

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SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Safeguarding Officers are currently strongly recommended by Bowls England, as of 2025 they will be mandatory as a qualification of affiliation. Safeguarding Officers should ideally have a DBS check.

It is the responsibility of the Club/Association to ensure that their Safeguarding Officers hold a DBS check in the name of their National Governing Body. As the Safeguarding Officer is acting on their behalf, and it's ultimately the club's responsibility.

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EDUCATION

Government Website:
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service

Coach Bowls:
www.coachbowls.org/time-to-listen/

Bowls England
www.bowlsengland.com/safeguarding

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APPLICATIONS/QUERIES

All applications should be submitted online at www.bowlsengland.com/dbs-applications

Queries or to follow up an application that you have made, please find below contacts:

Coaches: Adam Durnin
adam@coachbowls.org

Other: Varsha Ragoobarsing
varsha.ragoobarsing@bowlsengland.com

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OTHER

Other positions such as Team Managers and certain Volunteers may also be required to have DBS checks. It is the responsibility of the Club/Association to ensure that their volunteers and officers hold a DBS check in the name of their National Governing Body.

Our DBS forms contain seven different checks. To assist you we have created this handy poster, that you can find on our website, so that you can easily assess which check that is correct for your position.