



Safeguarding Newsletter

Spring 2026

The latest news and updates in Safeguarding at MITC

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Cricket Regulator The second annual Independent Assurance Review of the Cricket Regulator March 2026

'From compliance to culture'

—

Safe Hands and Policy Updates

Updates from the CR
and MITC

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Digital ID Verification

Scroll down to find out
more!



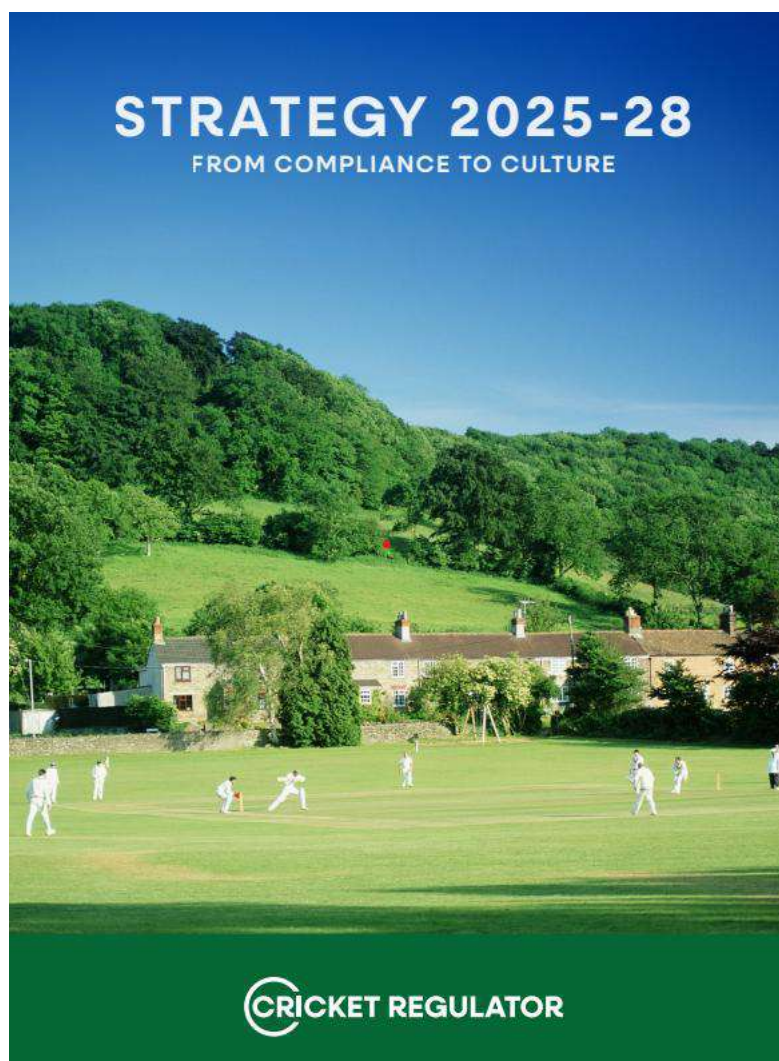
Pre-Season Statement

Amber Wright - County Safeguarding Officer

As the 2026 season approaches and the covers come off, we are all looking forward to the excitement, community, and enjoyment that cricket brings to Middlesex. Whether it's the first junior training session or the opening league fixture, our shared priority remains the same: ensuring that cricket is a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for everyone.

Safeguarding is not just a regulatory requirement; it is the foundation upon which our sport thrives. Before the first ball is bowled, we ask all clubs to take a moment to review their safeguarding readiness.

I want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all our volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure cricket in Middlesex is a safe space where people feel supported to have fun, develop, and thrive. All of us at MITC are here to help and support clubs to maintain a positive safeguarding culture.



External review confirms independence of Cricket Regulator investigations

'From compliance to culture'

In an independent review of the second year of operation of the Cricket Regulator, published in March 2026, Sport Resolutions concluded:

"There is no evidence that the ECB has sought to or actually positively exerted influence or interference with the Cricket Regulator's investigation, charging and/or disciplinary powers. The independent regulator is making strong progress in building a platform for robust governance and independent decision making. The publication of the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan reflects an evolution in the service offering and a strong compliance framework around independence."

To read the full report, please follow the link here: [External review confirms independence of Cricket Regulator investigations](#)

ECB Safe Hands Policy March 2026

This revision brings the policy in line with current legislation and guidance and reflects our commitment to reviewing and updating it every three years. The most significant change is the move to a single safeguarding policy for the whole game, covering both adults and children.

[ECB SH SafeHands Policy Doc 2026 March-2026.pdf](#)

Club Safeguarding Policy Statement - Updated

An updated Club Safeguarding Policy template is also attached. This has been revised to reflect the changes within the new Safe Hands Policy. Over the coming weeks, we will be updating the Safeguarding Kitbag to ensure it aligns with current practice and the revised policy. You can find the policy here [CLub-Safeguarding-Policy-Statement-Template-MARCH-2026.docx](#)

Cricket Regulator

How to report a concern and contact details

Safeguarding

safeguarding@cricketregulator.co.uk

[020 7432 1200](tel:02074321200)

Anti-Discrimination

[Cricket Regulator | Anti-Discrimination](#)

Misconduct

integrity@cricketregulator.co.uk

MITC Policy and Codes Updates



Policies

MCCC/MITC Safeguarding Policy April 2026 - [MCCC](#)

[Safeguarding Policy 2026 v5-2.pdf](#)

MCCC/MITC Whistleblowing Policy April 2026 - [MCCC](#)

[MITC Whistleblowing Policy updated v5.pdf](#)

Risk Assessment Policy April 2026 - [Risk Assessment Policy](#)

[v3.pdf](#)

Codes

Code of Conduct for Volunteers - [Code of Conduct -](#)

[Volunteers v2.pdf](#)

Code of Conduct for Parents, Carers, and Guests - [CODE](#)

[OF CONDUCT FOR PARENT CARERS GUEST v3.pdf](#)

Code of Conduct for Children and Young People - [CODE](#)

[OF CONDUCT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE- v3.pdf](#)

All of our policies and codes can be found via our website here [SAFEGUARDING DOCUMENTS](#)

Training Requirements for Regulated Roles

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and the ECB are committed to ensuring that everyone involved in cricket has the opportunity to undertake appropriate safeguarding training.

This training matrix aims to make clear which of our training options should be undertaken for roles within cricket and also which roles require an ECB DBS check.

If you do undertake multiple roles in cricket, please consult your County Safeguarding Officer if you are unsure about the requirements.

You can view the document here [Safeguarding-Training-Matrix.pdf](#)

ROLE	TRAINING REQUIREMENTS		ECB DBS REQUIREMENT
	Required	Highly Recommended	
Club Safeguarding Officers, League Safeguarding Officers	SGL2 SGL3 (Safe Hands)		Enhanced DBS required
Coaches	SGL2		Enhanced DBS required
All Stars / Dynamos Activators	SGL2		Enhanced DBS required
Scorers	SGL2		N/A
Captains/Vice-Captains, Age Group Team Managers, Junior Supervisor, Volunteer Coordinator, Umpires		SGL2	Enhanced DBS required
Club Chair		SGL2 SGL3 (Safe Hands)	N/A
Club Committee Members		SGL2	N/A
All Stars / Dynamos Helper		SGL2	Enhanced DBS required (if volunteering for more than 3 sessions).
Players Parents/Carers, Club Administrators, non-cricket staff/volunteers (Grounds, bar or catering staff etc.)		SGL1	N/A



Safeguarding Training

Online and In-Person Updates

Introduction to Safeguarding (SGL1) - We invite you, and everybody at your club, to complete our online Introduction to Safeguarding. The training provides basic knowledge and advice in creating a safe cricket environment for everyone, recognising signs of abuse, what to do if you have any concerns or if you are approached by anyone with concerns that they may have. [ECB Safeguarding level 1 Form](#)



Safeguarding Level 2 (SGL2) - is now live! And is the new course from the Cricket Regulator safeguarding team on behalf of the ECB, which has replaced the old Safeguarding for Specialist Roles (SSR) courses. Robust safeguarding helps to keep our cricket community safe and welcoming. This course will provide the learner with what to look out for and how to respond to concerns.

The Audience:

- Coach or activator
- Umpire or Scorer
- Committee Member
- Safeguarding Officer
- Captain or team manager



The aims and objectives of the course:

- Create a safe and inclusive cricket environment
- Describe what a safeguarding concern is
- Respond appropriately to concerns
- Describe how to report and record safeguarding concerns

[Summary - Safeguarding Level 2 \(SGL2\) - Middlesex in the Community](#)



Safeguarding Level 3 (SGL3) - the Safe Hands Workshop material is available to all trained ECB Safe Hands Tutors and is under constant review by the proactive safeguarding team. If there are any changes made outside of the yearly update / refresh, you shall be advised.

We have completed three Safe Hands Workshops across the county between January - April 2026. MITC will look to hold further workshops after the season between October 2026-April 2027



**Disclosure &
Barring Service**



Becoming a Club Safeguarding Officer

Becoming a Cricket Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) is a vital and incredibly rewarding role. At its heart, it means being the first point of contact for any safeguarding concerns within your club, particularly those involving children and vulnerable adults.

While safeguarding is ultimately everyone's responsibility, the CSO is instrumental in ensuring that policies and procedures are in place and that the club upholds its duty of care to all its members. If you are interested in becoming a deputy/club safeguarding officer, please contact Amber Wright on amber.wright@middlesexccc.com

Becoming an ID Verifier

Please follow the link to find out more on how to become an ID verifier for your cricket club [How do I become an ID verifier? – Safe Hands](#)

New Digital ID Verification

Many of you may have already spotted that, as of this week, the ECB are now offering Digital ID verification as an option for DBS applications. This provides an alternative to face-to-face ID verification and allows applicants to verify their identity remotely using a digital process.

The Digital ID option is entirely optional, and volunteers can still choose to complete a free face-to-face ID verification, as they have done previously. Please note, when you initiate the DBS, you are required to select Digital ID verification, however when the applicant completes the check, they can choose to either have their ID verified face-to-face or digitally.

It is important to note that there is a £4.92 cost associated with the Digital ID verification, which is paid by the applicant should they choose this route.

Full details of the process, including what applicants will need and how it works, can be found in this Zendesk article:

<https://safehands.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/35366220165533-DBS-application-Digital-ID-verification-process>

For DBS queries

dbs@ecb.co.uk

0121 446 2728

[DBS and Qualifications – Safe Hands](#)





Updates to SafeHands Kit-Bag

Within the Safeguarding Kit Bag, you will see some additional or updated guidance / resources now available:

- Clubs Safeguarding Self-Assessment Form
- Open Age Form
- Training Matrix
- Coaching Ratios

Recreational Club Safeguarding Self-Assessment:

The Cricket Regulator have produced an assessment tool that clubs can use to review safeguarding at their club. This is a self-assessment tool which can help clubs identify areas where more can be done to create a safe and welcoming environment.

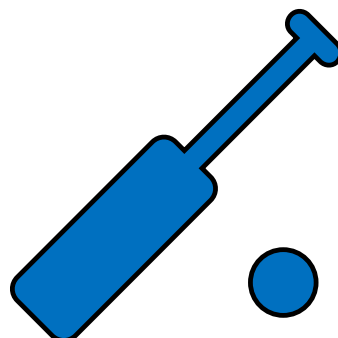
The assessment sheet is available in the Kit Bag : [England and Wales Cricket Board \(ECB\) - The Official Website of the ECB](#)

Transporting Children to Cricket Activities:

In light of recent queries around transporting children to cricket matches, please see the ECBs transporting children to cricket activities policy: [Transporting-Children-to-Cricket-Activities.pdf](#)

The ECB's position is that coaches, staff and volunteers do **NOT** transport children to and from cricket activities. We appreciate that often coaches, staff or volunteers may also be parents of children taking part in cricket activities.

For more information, please contact your club development advisor, alternatively, you can contact safeguarding@middlesexccc.com



Updates the Safe Hands Management System (SHMS)

ECB are excited to announce upcoming enhancements to the Safe Hands Management System (SHMS), which went live in early May. As part of their ongoing efforts to improve the way club and safeguarding information is tracked and managed, several important updates will be made in the system aimed at improving user experience and compliance management for clubs.



Key Updates:

- **Expanded Teams Options:** We're introducing more specific categories for teams, replacing the previous broader categories (e.g., Men's, Women's, and Junior Cricket). Clubs will now be able to select from more specific options such as *Boys Junior Hardball Cricket* and *Open-Age Women's Softball Cricket*, providing a more tailored approach to how club activities are represented in the system.
- **New National Programme Option:** Dynamos Cricket will be available as a National Programme selection, alongside All Stars Cricket. This will impact the Activator rule, which applies when clubs are delivering National Programmes.
- **Streamlined Team & Programme Selection:** A new toggle feature will allow clubs to save updates directly on the Teams & Programmes page without needing to navigate through multiple screens. This makes the process to maintain up-to-date information quicker and more intuitive for clubs.
- **Tailored Club Compliance Criteria:** Currently, all compliance rules are displayed in club compliance criteria regardless of the teams & programmes that clubs deliver. We're making updates to ensure the compliance criteria will only display the rules that are specifically relevant to clubs, based on their activities. By filtering out non-applicable rules, this change will make it clearer what each club needs to do to maintain compliance.
- **New In-Platform Guidance:** We're introducing real-time, in-system guidance in the platform. Users will now benefit from step-by-step guidance for actions like user onboarding, reviewing role compliance, and confirming club details. Additionally, helpful tooltips and prompts will make completing tasks easier, and timely notifications will keep users informed about new features and important updates.

For more information, visit the [SHMS Help Centre](#) or click '[Submit a Query](#)' to contact the team.

Safe Hands FAQ's - Safe Hands



Looking Out for Eachother

At MITC, we are committed to ensuring our clubs feel supported and know where to seek further guidance on mental health and wellbeing.

For further information please visit our website [Mental Health & Well-being](#)

If you are experiencing any mental health issues, and would like to talk to an MITC member of staff who is Mental Health First Aid trained, please contact either:

Johan de Silva - jds@middlesexccc.com

Jack Davis - jack.davis@middlesexccc.com



Children 'Playing Up' and Open-Age Cricket Considerations

Safety is governed by the player's biological age, not the match age. You **MUST** still adhere to the mandatory safety measures for their age.

You have a duty of care as a club/team, your priority is safety over everything else.

- The MJCA's rules and regulations also ask clubs to adhere to the ECB's guidelines.
- Treat this as a safeguarding matter, not a competitive one.
- If you have concerns about a young player's position, address it immediately with the officials to ensure safety

- ✓ **Confirm with the child, parent carer and coach the environment is right for the child.**
- ✓ **Consider the child's age, ability, and development**
- ✓ **Agree a safety plan with the club safeguarding officer before the match starts.**
- ✓ **Confirm the player's eligibility with the opposition manager before the match starts.**
- ✓ **Proactively speak with the opposing captain to agree on these safety distances.**
- ✓ **Safety regulations are non-negotiable. If a young player is positioned dangerously, it is your responsibility to alert the umpires immediately.**

Listening to Children and Young People

We emphasise the importance of listening to children and young people as a crucial aspect of safeguarding and creating a safe, inclusive environment in cricket. This includes proactively seeking and acting upon their views.

What things can clubs do to create a proactive listening culture?

Youth-Friendly Policies:

Translate safeguarding policies and codes of conduct into age-appropriate, easy-to-understand language or even visual formats.

Player Representatives/Youth

Forums: Establish a youth committee or designate player representatives to sit on club committees. This gives young people a formal platform to share ideas, raise issues, and contribute to decision-making.



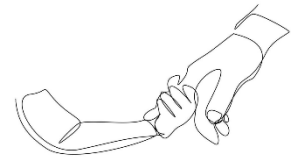
Child-Led Activities/Input: Allow children to have a say in training drills, team rules, or social activities. This fosters a sense of ownership and shows their opinions are valued.

Feedback Loops: When children provide feedback or raise concerns, the club must demonstrate that they have been heard and that action (or a reason for no action) will be taken. Close the loop by communicating outcomes.

"Suggestion Box": A physical or digital space where children can anonymously submit ideas for improvements, concerns, or things they enjoy.



Parent, Guardian/Carer & Guest Conduct



At Middlesex in the Community, we believe that the positive involvement of parents is one of the most important factors in creating a fun, safe, and rewarding environment for our young players. Your support from the boundary is invaluable, and by working together, we can ensure every child has the best possible experience.

To help create the best atmosphere on match days, we kindly ask for your support in the following areas:

- **Be a Source of Encouragement:** Applaud effort, good sportsmanship, and skillful play from **all** players on both teams. Remember that children respond best to praise and encouragement, not pressure.
- **Respect the Officials:** Umpires and scorers, who are often volunteers, have a difficult job to do. Please always respect their decisions. They are essential to the game, and your positive example will teach your child to respect them too.
- **Let the Coaches Coach:** Our qualified coaches are dedicated to helping every player develop. Please refrain from shouting instructions from the sideline, as it can be confusing for the players. Your role is to be a supporter, not a second coach. If you wish to discuss your child's progress, please arrange a suitable time to speak with the coach away from the pressures of a match.
- **Focus on the Bigger Picture:** While winning is enjoyable, it isn't everything at junior level. The focus should always be on your child's enjoyment, effort, and personal development.
- **Remember, It's Their Game:** Let the players enjoy the game they love. Your role is to create a positive and supportive backdrop that allows them to flourish without fear of making mistakes.

If you ever have any questions or safeguarding concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with your Club Safeguarding Officer in the first instance. Please kick here for MITCs Parent, Guardians/Carers & Guests Code of Conduct: [CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENT CARERS GUEST v3.pdf](#)

Thank you!



Thank you for taking the time to read our Spring 2026 Safeguarding Newsletter and hope you have found it useful.

From all of us at MITC, we want to say a huge thank you to all the Club Safeguarding Officers and other volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure your clubs are safe, inclusive, and welcoming for all.

The colder months have seen high levels of training, organising, prepping and countless DBS applications, all of which are vital to ensuring a culture of safeguarding across Middlesex. Without your support, none of this would be possible.

Key Contacts

County Safeguarding Officer: Amber Wright - safeguarding@middlesexccc.com / amber.wright@middlesexccc.com 07561 853999

MITC Lead Officer: Johan de Silva - jds@middlesexccc.com 07481 622191

MITC Board Safeguarding Lead: Marilyn Toft - marilyn.toft@middlesexccc.com

MITC Board Chair: Will Stone: will.stone@middlesexccc.com

Safeguarding Page: [Safeguarding Home](#)