

## Safeguarding and Scoring

Following a comprehensive review of Regulated Activity by the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and taking independent legal advice, as well as consultation across other partners, it was concluded that the general role of Scorer does not meet the legal requirements for an Enhanced DBS (Disclosure & Baring Service)<sup>1</sup>.

ECB ACO Scorers will no longer be required to have an Enhanced DBS check.<sup>2</sup> A DBS check is not protection. For years there has been a reliance on DBS checks. DBS is about Deployment and Environment. We do not rely on one process, a DBS is an important part of what we do for some roles but it also about adopting a culture of vigilance and safe working practices.

Scorers will be required to undertake the online *Safeguarding for Specialist Role (SSR)* e-learning training every 3 years, which replaced Safeguarding Young Cricketers (SYC), and are encouraged to follow other safeguarding best practice guidance.<sup>3</sup>

Attached is a communication, which has been prepared in conjunction with Middlesex CCC, that is being sent to all Clubs within Middlesex, reminding them of the ECB best practice guidance. This is **NOT** a new initiative but has been in place for some time but in many cases not adhered to.

Many clubs are appointing youngsters as scorers and just leave them with the opposition scorer in the belief that they will look after them. This is not so. Clubs should have a responsible adult acting as *'in loco parentis'*<sup>4</sup> either at home or when travelling away and parents or guardians do not accompany the child.<sup>5</sup>

Scorers should not find themselves in a position next season where an U18 scorer is left alone with them. The *"Rule of Two"* – must ALWAYS be at least two adults present and responsible for each team of U18s. So, in a Scorebox or remote scoring location, i.e. not in close proximity of others at the ground, there must be a 'responsible adult' with any U18s as well as second scorer. The scorer is not responsible for an U18 scorer and nor should they be alone with them in a Scorebox or remote scoring location. This is for their own protection.

The County Safeguarding Officer should inform all Clubs of the changes and encourage their Committee members, Captains and other officials, including scorers, to undertake the SSR e-learning and familiarise themselves with the ECB Safeguarding guidance.

The SSR course is for all those who have a specialist role in cricket including Coaches, Activators, Officials, Committee Members, Captains and Club Safeguarding Officers. It might

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<sup>1</sup> *Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 & Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.*

<sup>2</sup> *It is illegal to mandate a DBS check for non-regulated activity.*

<sup>3</sup> *ECB Safeguarding Policies and Procedures – Kit Bag resources.*

<sup>4</sup> *"In the place or role of a parent, as in a person acting in a parental capacity" – Legal Dictionary definition.*

<sup>5</sup> *Managing Children Away from Club & Transporting Children to Cricket Activities – ECB Best Practice Guidance.*

be worthwhile League Committee members to also undertake the SSR e-learning and then proceed to complete the appropriate bolt on module. The Safeguarding for Specialist Roles training should take around 1 hour to complete and the top up modules around 20 minutes.

Here is a link to the on-line training:

[Personal Information - Safeguarding For Captains and Team Managers \(ecb.co.uk\)](https://ecb.co.uk)

[Personal Information - Safeguarding For Coaches and Activators \(ecb.co.uk\)](https://ecb.co.uk)

[Personal Information - Safeguarding For Umpires and Scorers \(ecb.co.uk\)](https://ecb.co.uk)

[Personal Information - Safeguarding For Committee Members \(ecb.co.uk\)](https://ecb.co.uk)

Please take time to read the ECB best practice guidance in the [Safe Hands Kit Bag](#).

It would also be helpful if your League could direct any Clubs appointing an U18 scorer to notify the opposition scorer or club in advance and confirm the name of the responsible adult staying with the child.

Remember ***Safeguarding is EVERYONE's responsibility***. Scorers have not had clear guidelines and were left believing that a DBS certificate was sufficient. It became a way of thinking: a Culture. Responsibility was left to individuals.