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Dear County Administrator,

SAFEGUARDING IN BOWLS – TIME TO LISTEN COURSE

Bowls England is doing everything that it can to ensure that bowls is a safe sport for all participants including children and adults at risk. To ensure this happens, we are working with the cross-code Safeguarding Bowls Group to support Club Welfare Officers by offering the above bowls specific training module that provides guidance on their roles and responsibilities, and assistance on what action to take if a concern arises within the club environment. The courses have been available now for more than twelve months and have received some excellent feedback from attendees.

Several additional safeguarding tutors with vast experience have recently been recruited, meaning more courses can now be made available across England. Bowls England therefore wishes to encourage every County Association to organise a minimum of one course within its area over the next 12 months. The maximum number on each course is 16 people and it is recommended that clubs may wish to send two delegates, one of whom should be the Club Welfare Officer (or equivalent position).

The 'Safeguarding in Bowls – Time to Listen Course' course lasts four hours and usually runs from 10am to 2pm or 2pm to 6pm although times can be altered to meet your local requirements. Should your County Association wish to host a course you need to identify a venue that can meet the requirements below:

- Will comfortably provide seating for between the minimum of 12 and maximum of 16 attendees;
- Can make available light refreshments for attendees to purchase;
- Ideally provide a screen and projector (the tutor can bring these if not available)

The cost of the course is £35 per person. All County Associations are reminded that Bowls England will reimburse 50 per cent of the course costs (one person per affiliated club per year ending 30th September annually) through its Safeguarding Bursary. Additional funding may be available through your relevant County Sport Partnership. The County Association may similarly wish to make a financial contribution towards the course costs.

If your County Association does wish to arrange a course, please contact the Bowls Development Alliance either by telephone on 01664 777001 or e-mail: office@playbowls.org

Yours faithfully

Tony Allcock MBE
Chief Executive
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