

## **SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2015.**

The 2015 season unfortunately included several incidents on the field of play which had to be dealt with by league discipline panels where in the presence of children, violent or aggressive behaviour and the use of foul and abusive language was used.

During the past twelve months Nottinghamshire Cricket Board have provided two scUK SPC (Safeguarding & Protecting Children) workshops for Coaches & Club Welfare Officers and one 'ECB Safe Hands' workshop for new Club Welfare Officers'. Additionally, the Bassetlaw and District Cricket League funded a 'Safe Hands' and a 'Safe Hands Refresher' workshop for new and renewing club welfare officers respectively hosted by Anston CC.

DBS checks are now being completed very quickly. People who hold a DBS certificate from an organisation other than Cricket have been able to apply to use it for their cricket roles since May 2015. It is anticipated that from March 2016 those people who have an ECB DBS certificate and are members of the DBS Update Service will be able to apply to GBGroup so that they will never have to renew their DBS certificate again providing their circumstances don't change. This is seen as a really positive step forwards for volunteers in cricket. The ECB have expressed concern about the number of people across the country who carry out roles within cricket without the requisite DBS certificate and in particular captains and club welfare officers. We are expecting the government to announce legal changes to the DBS systems in 2016 which may require legal compliance. We will keep clubs and leagues informed about any such changes.

Regarding DBS related processes Nottinghamshire currently still have four people disqualified by the ECB from roles within cricket, eight people suspended by the ECB from roles within cricket and two people with ECB conditions attached to roles they may undertake within cricket. This is the same position as in 2014.

On 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 following a lengthy review the NCB PLC Board of Directors agreed to amend its policy on juniors playing in open age cricket. A small number of year 7 county players will be permitted to play and their names will be placed upon an 'Approved List' and circulated to clubs and leagues. A copy of the full policy is on the NCB website.

A short Safeguarding presentation was included within the two club seminars delivered in November 2015.

The County Welfare Officer continues to help & support clubs and leagues regarding Managed Migration. Clubs are advised that they need to comply with a) UK Law and b) League rules before using non EU players and coaches. Different types of visas permit an individual to do different things whilst in the UK. Not all visas permit individuals to play in recreational cricket, or receive payments or be allowed to coach. There were some changes to visa types in 2015. All clubs are advised to refer to the UK Border Agency website. The UK Border Agency has undertaken routine checks / visits with some clubs.

The ECB will shortly be publishing a new policy on the wearing of helmets following some extensive research and consultation.

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15/12/15.