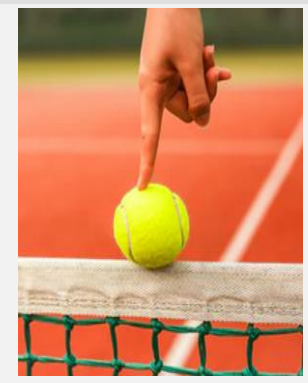
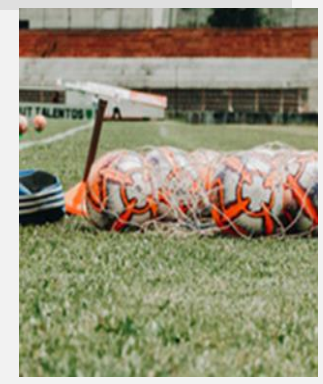
# SAFEGUARDING ADVICE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS
## When choosing a sports / Activity Provider

## PARENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As parents we all want to ensure our children are safeguarded when accessing services this includes extra circular activities.

It's your right as a parent or carer to be able to check how well a sport/activity provider operates – for the sake of your child's safety and your peace of mind Sports England provide guidance on the key points you should consider when choosing a sports club, coached session or activity.

## ASSESSING A CLUB OR ACTIVITY PROVIDER

Even if a club is accredited, you should check that the organisation has:

•A safeguarding policy, with a clear procedure for dealing with concerns or risks of abuse. You should be advised how you can access the policy

•A named and contactable welfare officer responsible for the implementation of their safeguarding policy and dealing with issues relating to the protection of children, young people or adults in sport

•Procedures for dealing with complaints or concerns regarding poor practice, abuse or neglect

•Written standards of good practice, such as a code of conduct or behaviour

•A parental consent for participating in activities and using any media recordings including pictures and videos that may be used for publications or publicity. Parental consent for any medical treatment that a child may need to be given in an emergency. The form must be returned to the club or activity provider, so that parents/carers can be contacted should there be a need to do so and for the purpose of ensuring the activity provider is complying with health and safety guidelines.

•Safe recruitment procedures for those working with young people that include a clear job description, appropriate references, criminal records checks (e.g. DBS) for relevant posts and technical qualifications

•Access to appropriate safeguarding or child protection training for its staff and volunteers.

## ASSESSING A FREELANCE COACH OR INSTRUCTOR

If you're looking at engaging a coach or instructor who operates outside the structure of a club or activity provider, you should check that they have:

•A valid Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check certificate at an appropriate level which is relevant to their role. A DBS enhanced barred list check is required if coaching on a regular, intensive basis or unsupervised with children & young people.

•The relevant minimum qualifications for the role they're undertaking

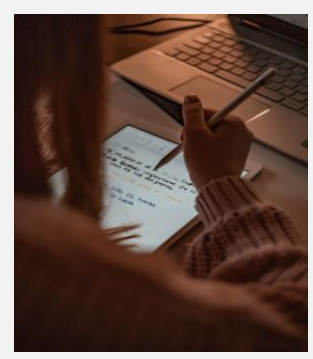
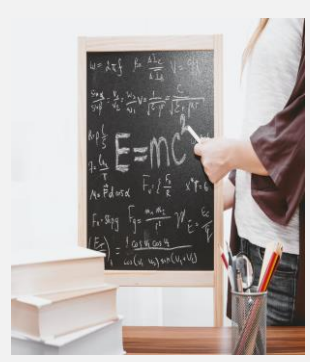
•A valid registration or licence from their governing body to coach, teach or instruct

•A valid public liability insurance

•Undertaken safeguarding training such as UK Coaching's Safeguarding and Protecting Children workshop, the Local Safeguarding Children's Board's basic awareness training. Or sport-specific training in line with their national governing body's guidelines

Remember, a well-run club or activity provider will welcome questions about their activities and policies. They'll know they have a responsibility to give this kind of information to anyone who leaves a child in their care.

For further guidance please visit the DBS website regarding working in sports with children: DBS Checks in Sport –Working with Children guidance document. www.

The information in this leaflet is from the Sports England Website. For more information and support visit the: 'What to look for in a sports club' section of the Child Protection in Sport Unit website: Read the Child Protection in Sport Unit's charter for parents: https://thecpsu.org.uk/parents/information-for-parents/#welfareofficer

Visit: www.voluntaryactionharrow.org.uk & Safeguarding Children Board website: www.harrowscb.co.uk