



## *WESSEX BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN*

1. As an affiliated Association of Basketball England (BE) that has young people under the age of 18 participating it is our responsibility to make sure those people are in a safe and welcoming environment. All Associations and Clubs/Teams that have U18's playing for them should appoint a Child Welfare Officer (CWO) as the dedicated individual who the young people, coaches and parents can go to if there is a problem.

2. This not only helps protect young people against abuse of any kind, but aids in educating coaches, officials and volunteers on good practice processes and procedures and what to do if they have any concerns about a young person's safety. A comprehensive guide to Safeguarding children can be found on the BE web site at <https://www.basketballengland.co.uk/safeguarding>

The Wessex Child Welfare Officer is:

Mr Christopher Hunt

Email: [topher.hunt@gmail.com](mailto:topher.hunt@gmail.com)

Telephone: 07527 582790

3. Chris has 24 hour support and assistance from the Basketball England Compliance Manager Melissa Hague who is also the Lead Safeguarding Officer. Her contact details for enquires are as follows:

Mrs Melissa Hague

Email: [melissa.hague@basketballengland.co.uk](mailto:melissa.hague@basketballengland.co.uk)

Telephone: 0114 2841088

4. Should a child, parent or coach have a concern about a child they should contact their Club CWO or, if they prefer, go direct to the Wessex CWO. All matters will be treated in the strictest confidence and passed on to the BE Lead Safeguarding Officer or the local police if it is felt a child is in immediate risk of harm.

### **COACHES AND OFFICIALS**

5. In addition **all** Coaches must hold a valid Database and Barring Service (DBS) check to licence and register with Wessex and BE for the 2015-16 season. Basketball England provide access to a DBS checking service via their website... <https://www.basketballengland.co.uk/safeguarding/dbs-checks> There is an admin fee of £12.60 for online applications, as well as £44 for people who earn money through basketball. For volunteers receiving nothing more than expenses, there is no additional charge.

6. Should you require your current DBS to be verified the Wessex Area DBS Verifier is Liz Edwards at Reading Rockets who can be contacted at [liz@readingrockets.co.uk](mailto:liz@readingrockets.co.uk) or telephone 0118 926 3040.

## **SAFEGUARDING COURSE FOR REFEREES & TABLE OFFICIALS**

7. Before you can register as an official for the 2015/16 season every Referee and Table Official must have completed, or be in the process of obtaining, a safeguarding course. This course must have been done within the past 3 years. There is an online NSPCC training course that can be undertaken at:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/get-expert-training/child-protection-sport-online-course/>

8. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this BE policy please raise them with the relevant person from the details given in this document.

(Original signed sent by email)

T E Brown MBE  
Chairman

Dated August 2015