

# Safeguarding in Bowls News

February 2023

No.7

## Bullying v Banter

Sports clubs can be known for having lots of high-spirited behaviour and banter. Bowls clubs are not immune from this. Some say it helps a team bond and allows players to get to know each other. However, there is a fine line between bullying and banter. If the banter targets one person and becomes persistent, this then becomes bullying. If it upsets the individual and has potential to damage their passion for the sport, self-esteem, confidence or ability to take part then this becomes bullying. It is better to encourage praise, support and unity rather than negative behaviour. The BDA website has a guidance sheet on bullying v banter. **Report any incidents to your NGB safeguarding lead.**



## Focus on – Self Neglect

The term “self-neglect” covers a wide range of behaviour neglecting to care for one’s personal hygiene, health or surroundings. Examples of self-neglect include:



- A refusal or inability to cater for basic needs, including personal hygiene and appropriate clothing.
- Neglecting to seek medical assistance.
- Not attending to living conditions – letting rubbish accumulate in the garden, or dirt to accumulate in the house.
- Hoarding items or animals.

Self-neglect can result from any mental or physical illness that has an effect on the person’s physical abilities, energy levels, attention, organisational skills, or motivation. There are two types of self-neglect:

**Intentional, or Active Self-Neglect:** When a person makes a conscious choice to engage in self-neglect.

**Non-Intentional, or Passive Self-Neglect:** When health-related conditions contribute to a risk of developing self-neglect.

If you have concerns about someone in your bowls club who may be neglecting their own well-being, you can contact the **Ann Craft Trust** for advice on **0115 951 5400**. Also let your club and NGB safeguarding officer know. Remember you may be the most regular point of contact for this person and more likely to notice a concern.

## Awareness Days

[Safer Internet Day](#) is 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023. A good opportunity to promote your club Social Media Guidelines perhaps.



[Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week](#) is 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>



February 2023. You could use this week to promote your club Code of Conduct.

[International Transgender Day of Visibility](#) is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. A day to celebrate how inclusive our sport is and check your NGB guidelines on transgender bowlers.



## BDA Community Club Hubs

The BDA Development Team supports bowls clubs through Community Club Hubs. They support clubs surrounding these hubs by organising workshops on topics including Safeguarding. The current Hubs are: *Linton Lions BC and South Shields BC (Northeast), Fox Lane CGBC (Northwest), Lincoln IBC (East), Rugby Thornfield IBC and Erdington Court BC (Midlands), Essex County BC (Southeast), Exonia BC (Southwest).*



## Scam Protection

Think Jessica is an organisation committed to protecting people from fraud and scams. This is a particular safeguarding concern for adults at risk. Check out their resources on their website. [Think Jessica | Protecting elderly & vulnerable people from scams](#)

