



SPORT WELFARE OFFICER NETWORK

Providing local, professional support for club welfare officers



Overview for Clubs and Community Groups

The Sport Welfare Officer Network is a new initiative in England that aims to make sports clubs safer for everyone.

What is the Sport Welfare Officer Network?

We know that the work of a club or community group can be hard at times, and it can often feel like an isolated role.

We're trying to change that.

Sport Welfare Officers are here to support your clubs welfare roles and responsibilities.

We can provide local support and opportunities to assist you in your volunteer roles. Whether that's helping you meet your safeguarding responsibilities, connecting you with other club and community groups or assisting you to grow your knowledge and skills - we are here to help.

Your sport may already have regional safeguarding staff who provide your club with support. If it does, these teams are still your primary contact. Sport Welfare Officers will work with these representatives and your National Governing Body (where applicable) to connect sports and promote good welfare practices locally.

Good welfare practice matters to everyone and together we want to help create environments in sport and physical activity which are positive and safe for all children, young people and adults.

Important Note



Sport Welfare Officers are not responsible for handling specific safeguarding concerns. These concerns should be reported immediately, following the guidelines set by local authorities, the National Governing Body (NGB), or the club's safeguarding policy.

Contact us!

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Welfare Enquiries: welfare@activelancashire.org.uk

HERE'S A BREAKDOWN OF THE KEY POINTS:



Funded by Sport England

The network is financed through National Lottery Grants



Focus on Prevention

Raise awareness & establish strong safeguarding practices to create safer cultures nationally and locally.



Understanding Local Needs

It provides additional local support and training to clubs and community groups, who are involved with physical activity.



Network Experts

Sport Welfare Officer national network connects national and local initiatives for volunteers & staff to feel better connected and informed.



Collaboration

The network works with National Governing Bodies (NGBs), child protection organisations, to create a unified approach to safety in sport.



Safer Cultures

Improved experiences for children, young people and adults. Making sport safe for everyone.

WHAT DO SPORT WELFARE OFFICERS DO?



Assist club welfare officers with their local duties.



Guide clubs towards the appropriate resources and guidance on welfare/safeguarding.



Promote the development of safe environments and cultures within sport/activity/movement spaces.



Organise training events and networking opportunities for volunteers and staff.



Recognise and **share** best practices in welfare/safeguarding.



Raise awareness about safeguarding measures at local sports events.