Frequently asked questions

1. What is the official name of the role?

The name of the person undertaking safeguarding at their club is 'Club Welfare Officer' or 'CWO'. For clarity all communication will reflect this moving forward.

2. Why do we need a CWO?

Everyone in volleyball has a responsibility to safeguard and protect young people. The key role of the Club Welfare Officer is to support the club to promote good safeguarding practice across the organisation, to be the named point of contact for all members of the volleyball family, to implement Volleyball England's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Policy & Procedures where a concern has been raised.

3. Do Colleges and Universities need a CWO?

As Colleges and Universities compete in AoC Sport and BUCS competitions respectively, they already have an over-arching welfare provision in place. However if either compete in regional or national league competitions they will need to adhere to the club requirements as listed.

4. Can I attend a non-volleyball specific course?

Many County Sport Partnerships are starting to run non-volleyball specific, multi-sport Time to Listen workshops. We realise that the volleyball workshops are not accessible for all, therefore CWOs are able to attend these workshops and gain the relevant experience for the role. Information can be found on the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) website (https://thecpsu.org.uk/training-events).

5. What happens is my club doesn't have a trained Club Welfare Officer appointed when affiliating for the 2016-17 season?

Clubs will be able to affiliate for the 2016-17 season providing they complete a threemonth waiver form. This will allow your club an additional three months to designate and train a CWO before their affiliation is suspended.

6. What happens if affiliation is suspended?

If the club has their affiliation suspended they will not be eligible to compete in local or regional leagues or Volleyball England competitions. Public liability insurance will also be invalid.

7. What happens if my club's CWO leaves and needs to be replaced. Or if their qualifications expire?

The club will be required to complete a three-month waiver form which will give them a three-month window to appoint and upskill a new CWO.

8. Will leagues / regional associations be responsible for monitoring clubs' CWO records?

No, Volleyball England will communicate to regional associations if records expire and deadlines pass.

9. What is the process for new clubs regarding CWO commitments?

The same process applies to new clubs as existing clubs who appoint a new CWO. The club will be required to complete a three-month waiver document and will then be given a three-month period to appoint and upskill their CWO.

10. What is the legislation that Volleyball England is following to ensure we provide a safe and fun environment for young people?

The statutory document for people in England working with children is 'Working together to Safeguard children'. It sets out how organisations should work together and appropriately respond to the needs of each individual child.

11. Do the CWOs from adult only clubs need a different level of training requirements?

Yes, following the feedback received from adult only clubs, Volleyball England has consulted with the CPSU on making the course more suitable. This has led to the requirements being changed for clubs catering for **adults only**. The CWO needs to just complete the Sport Coach UK Safeguarding and Protecting Children Workshop either face to face or online. This will reduce the cost and time commitment for **adult only clubs** while still providing a strong overview of safeguarding and its importance.

12. Why do adult only clubs have different rules?

The decision to reduce the requirement of adult only clubs was based on the specific elements of the Time to Listen course which are only relevant to clubs with children and young members.

Furthermore the online course is sufficient to provide a basic overview of safeguarding without becoming too onerous on time and costly for clubs that do not offer junior provision. Clubs are welcome to send their CWO on the full course if they deem it to be relevant and best practice.

- Adult only clubs are not responsible for looking after children who may turn up to watch parents train or play within the club environment. The responsibility lies with individual parent. However if children attend regularly or being to play within the club, the club is obliged to complete the full course
- The CWO of the adult clubs can either attend a face to face course or the online course to provide a basic understanding of safeguarding within their club environment.

13. Do you regard other training courses suitable to replace the Sport Coach UK Safeguarding and Protecting Children Workshop?

There are a number of professional courses which our members may have completed which equates to the Sports Coach UK Safeguarding and Protecting Children course. CPSU have stated that while they cannot list all of the courses due to the vast range, there are guidelines that the course has had to be at least three hours long and in a face to face format. CWOs must have completed their course within three years of registration.

14. How do we upload the training documentation onto our member profile? In order to evidence that you have been on a Safeguarding Course or Time to Listen you will need to log into your member profile by clicking here

Once you have logged in there is a new section in your member profile when you can simply drag and drop your certificate/s. Before you upload your certificate please ensure it has been appropriately named i.e. NAME_Safeguarding Course

15. Is there any funding available for the courses

Unfortunately Volleyball England cannot provide any funding for the courses however regional associations / clubs may be able to reduce costs by hosting a course and providing free venue hire.

16. How much do the courses cost?

Course costs are as follows:

- Sports Coach UK Safeguarding & Protecting Children Workshop £30 (typically)
- Sports Coach UK Safeguarding & Protecting Children Workshop £13.33
- CPSU Time to Listen workshop £30

17. How long do the qualifications last for?

Each of the three qualifications expire after three years of completion.

