

# Chester Seniors Bowling League 2023

## Safeguarding Report

12/09/2023

1. No major concerns have been reported to the League re safeguarding of vulnerable adults. Captains should note however that in some teams there are players with disabilities that may not be obvious e.g. Dementia or Autism. It is recommended that where a team Captain is aware that one or more of the team have such disabilities then before a match begins, with the consent of the player with the disability, the opposing captain should be advised. This will enable the opposing Captain the opportunity to take an appropriate reasonable adjustment if necessary. Some captains are already adopting this practice and it appears to be working quite well.
2. Club secretaries and team captains are reminded that there is posted on the League website a clear statement concerning the etiquette expected to be followed by all players. Similarly, the League Constitution outlines clear procedures that will be followed when an incident has been reported to the League Officers. Where a player(s) does not follow this guidance, it is expected that a player will be reported to the League Officers. If misconduct is reported then appropriate action will be taken against both the team and the individual.
3. All players need to be advised that the use of expletives on and around the green or actions such as kicking bowls violently into the gutter or similar, during or following a match will not be tolerated. This is especially the case in public parks etc when any member of the public could report such an incident directly to the BCGBA. Similarly, foul language directed towards officials, harassment or intimidation of League Officers will not be tolerated, such behaviours will lead to full disciplinary procedures being adopted. Such behaviour is regarded as bringing the game into disrepute and the BCGBA has issued guidance on how to deal with this issue.
4. During the season, whilst playing at different greens I have been informally informed of concerns by different captains about the behaviour of the same player(s) which has not been reported formally to league officers. If a Captain has a concern about the behaviour of a player, then this should be reported immediately in the first instance to the opposing Captain and then to League Officers. The League Officers can only take remedial action if they are aware of such concerns and not reporting a player's misconduct on or around the green often means that they continue such behaviour at other matches and experience suggests that such behaviours escalate and become seen as normal.

*Brian Turner*

Chester Seniors League Safeguarding Officer