

Welfare Officer report
Steph Strachan
HBL AGM 22.09.25

The 24/25 season had no incidents reported to me.

I have included below information ready for the new season.

There are changes to the DBS and licensing process which most people are aware of for the 2025/26 season and all registrations will be via the new PlayHQ platform. BE are not giving any overrides for DBS requirements and full process has to be followed with no exceptions. They are still accepting DBS certificates from alternate employers but these need to be seen, verified and confirmed to BE by a Club, County or Regional Welfare Officer. For Herts and East Region this is me.

The BE safeguarding course has replaced the use of any external alternative courses. This is the only course that will be accepted by BE for licensing purposes. The link to register for the BE Safeguarding Course is below;

<https://www.playhq.com/uk/basketball-england/register/672616>

There is a fee of £20 for the course.

No new Club Welfare officers have been identified to me other than those I am already aware of in existing junior Clubs. With an increase in Under 18s playing in the league please be aware if you have Under 18s training or playing at your Club you MUST have a Club Welfare Officer in place. This should be someone other than the Coach. The CWO must have a clear and current DBS certificate in place and must complete the BE Club Welfare Officer training module. Link below;

<https://www.playhq.com/uk/basketball-england/register/cbd20b>

There is a fee if £25 for the course.

Any Club which has Under 18s training or playing in their HBL team MUST have a Level 2 qualified Coach leading the sessions. A Level 1 Coach can only assist.

The League Committee have produced a liability waiver document which must be completed by all parties BEFORE an U18 can compete in any games. BE have a Liability Waiver form which now has to be returned to them and the League form will be held on record. Please be aware, like the BE form for National League competition, the League form can be requested for inspection by the League committee at any point. You must keep a copy for yourselves and return a copy to the League too.

Safeguarding. Please remember that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and not just by Welfare Officers. If you see something that concerns you then you have a duty and responsibility to report it.

Below is BE's Safeguarding information link;

<https://basketballengland.co.uk/safeguarding>

The training and resources link;

<https://basketballengland.co.uk/safeguarding/training-resources>

And details of the basic safeguarding requirements for Clubs as we start the new season;

<https://basketballengland.co.uk/news/safeguarding-awareness-week-day-two-safeguarding-requirements-for-clubs-2025-26>

Please take a look at the above links to make sure your Club is following the safeguarding requirements.

If you have any question or need further information please contact me;

Hertsbasketballsecretary@gmail.com

Or BE's Safeguarding team

safeguardingbasketball@basketballengland.co.uk