



# Wiltshire Cricket

## Affiliated Club Recreational Game

### Call

March 2026

# WELCOME

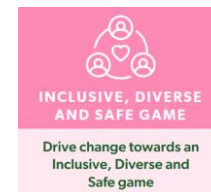
## Purpose of the Calls:

- Bi-monthly calls for club leaders in recreational cricket
- Reminders
- Updates
- Guests
- Programmes and Initiatives
- Q and A opportunity



# TODAY'S AGENDA

- Safe Hands Management System
- Umpiring and Scoring – Introduction to the pathway and education courses
- Club Affiliation Toolkit
- Overseas players
- Reminders re. National Programmes, Get Set Weekend, Affiliation



# SAFE HANDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

## Sam Dent, Wiltshire Cricket Development Manager



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**VOLUNTEER WORKFORCE**

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**INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE AND SAFE GAME**

Drive change towards an Inclusive, Diverse and Safe game



**TALENT PATHWAY**

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**FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

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# Safe Hands Management System



## Safe Hands Management System

Safe Hands creates a single central record of individuals involved in our sport. The ECB takes its safeguarding responsibility very seriously; with your cooperation and continued use of this system, together we can make cricket safer for all.



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# What is the SHMS?

An online database of your club volunteers & officials.

A safeguarding tool for tracking & managing qualifications, including DBS checks & Safe Hands & Online Safeguarding Qualifications.

A method to support clubs recognise safeguarding 'gaps' or 'expired qualifications' throughout the year.

A requirement for;

- All Affiliated Clubs, as part of the T&Cs
- Premier League Cricket Clubs
- Wiltshire Cricket Competitions
- Funding Applications through County Grants Fund
- Managed Migration & Overseas Cricketers

**Important – Whilst the system appears to be “binary” (I.e. Compliant vs Not Compliant”) – it is not designed to be used like this. Instead, consider SHMS as being ‘engaging with SHMS’ vs ‘not engaging’. It is recognised that an individual club might fluctuate between ‘compliant’ and ‘non-compliant’ regularly throughout the season. This is a tool to support clubs with recognising when there is a safeguarding ‘gap’.**

## 4/6 Compliance In progress

**i**

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- ✓ Activator
- ✓ Must have at least one Coach
- ✓ Club Safeguarding Officer
- ✓ Club Chair
- ✗ Open Age Captain
- ✗ All Officials are Compliant

[View](#)

## 1 Advisory

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- ✗ Age Group Manager Ratio

[View](#)

## DBS Status (Accepted Roles)

**✗**

42/50 required roles have DBS

[View](#)



# Benefits of SHMS

1. Numerous Volunteer Hours Saved – Less spreadsheets required!
2. Contributes to safe, welcoming & thriving clubs!
3. Helps to recognise safeguarding ‘gaps’ and prompts action.
4. SHMS is easily linked to other programmes (I.e. National Programmes, Accreditation Schemes, County Grants Funds etc.)
5. DBS Information is readily available for Club Admins
6. Criteria of Accreditation Scheme launching for 2027
7. FREE Liability Insurance - <https://www.howdengroup.com/uk-en/ecb-insurance-centre>
  1. Combined Liability Insurance package for the benefit of clubs who have registered all details on the Safe Hands online portal and completed an online risk assessment.
  2. The policy covers Public Liability, Employers Liability, Professional Indemnity, Directors & Officers and Cyber Liability. For more info, visit the Howden’s
  3. website.

# Before the 2026 season starts...

## 1. Log into SHMS;

- Existing Clubs – Ensure your club admin details are correct.
- New Clubs – Contact [sam.dent@wiltshirecricket.co.uk](mailto:sam.dent@wiltshirecricket.co.uk) or your club admin if already onboarded.



## 2. Check & Update your list of officials/volunteers

- Names – Is the list of volunteers correct? Do you have any new volunteers to add? Do you need to remove any volunteers?
- Roles – Do you volunteers have the correct roles assigned to them? Do they need to add/remove roles?
- Qualifications – Do you volunteers meet the requirements? DBS? Safe Hands? Online Safeguarding?



## 3. Club Information – Is this information correct & fully completed?

- Club Information – Address & Main Contact Information*
- Teams & Programmes – Tick Boxes for Club Programmes & Number of Members.*
- Venues & Insurance – Address for all venues & Risk Assessments (FREE INSURANCE)*

Club Officials

Club Information

Teams & Programmes

Venues & Insurance

# Compliant / “ENGAGING WITH” SHMS

The system will use “Compliant” vs “Non-Compliant”....

This means:

- a) *All compulsory volunteers are listed on the system. (E.g. Chair, Captains, Coaches (if junior sections), Safeguarding Officers etc.*
- b) *All roles have;*
  - a) *Accepted their role via the email link*
  - b) *Hold a Valid ECB DBS Certificate (where required)*
  - c) *Hold relevant safeguarding qualifications (where required)*

<u>Role</u>	<u>DBS Info</u>
Age Group Manager	Valid - 17/12/2028
Activator	Valid - 17/12/2028
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Valid - 17/12/2028
Coach	Valid - 17/12/2028
Club Administrator	Valid - 17/12/2028

## Important – DBS Dates:

All ECB DBS checks are valid for **12 MONTHS**.

If you see a 3-year expiry, this means they have signed up to the update service! They will need to consent to a DBS re-check every 12 months, but do not need to do the full DBS verification process.

# When to do SHMS?

SHMS is a **year-round tool** that is best used frequently and updated when your club experiences any changes/updates to volunteers.

**However...** your club should have SHMS fully updated **ahead of the 2026 season** starting to ensure best safeguarding practice and to demonstrate high levels of club governance.

Therefore, please ensure your SHMS is “Compliant/Engaged with” by **30<sup>th</sup> April or earlier (if you have pre-season games).**

# Help & Support

## 3 Ways to get support for SHMS

### Online Videos & Website



<https://safehands.zendesk.com/hc/en-us>

Safe Hands Help Desk

Email –

[safehands@ecb.co.uk](mailto:safehands@ecb.co.uk)

Sam Dent – Wiltshire  
Cricket

[Sam.dent@wiltshirecricket.co.uk](mailto:Sam.dent@wiltshirecricket.co.uk)



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# Other Resources

- ECB Resource Hub - <https://resourcehub.ecb.co.uk/login/>
- Safeguarding Kitbag - <https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/safeguarding/kit-bag-resources>
- Cricket Collective - <https://cricketcollective.zendesk.com/hc/en-gb>



## Workforce and Volunteers

Support and information for and about The Cricket Collective - the volunteers and workforce that make cricket happen.



## Players and Playing Offer

Support for players and information on different formats of cricket.



## Places you play

Guidance on how to get your space ready for play.



## Partnerships and Policies

All you need to know about cricket partnerships and the policies that support and protect your play.

# Club Affiliation Toolkit



**Comprehensive  
affiliation and T&Cs  
guide for clubs**



**Quick, visual and  
easy to read T&Cs  
summary sheet**



**Printable affiliation  
poster to display in  
clubhouses**



**Affiliated club  
membership book  
insert template**



**AGM Guide**



**Committee Meetings  
Guide**



**Club governance  
checklist**



**Financial controls  
checklist**



**Role descriptor  
templates – key  
officials**



**Comprehensive  
guide on club  
insurance**



**Club constitution &  
articles template**



# SCORING PATHWAY AND EDUCATION

**Andy Nott, WACO Scorer Education Officer**



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# Agenda

- The New Scoring Pathway
- Scoring Training Modules
- WACO Scoring Courses 2026



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# The New Scoring Pathway

The ECB Scoring Education & Development Pathway was launched this year. This pathway is designed to provide clarity as to what is expected of scorers at all levels of the game, with structured learning opportunities being provided to support scorers' development.

The new scoring pathway has five levels, ranging from S5 (Team scorer) to S1 (Professional Game Scorer).

The ECB Scoring Pathway is open to all scorers. To obtain the level of Team Scorer (S5), scorers must have completed the new ECB Online Scoring Course and be a Full member of the ECB ACO. To progress beyond S5, scorers must be full members of the ECB ACO.

Existing scorer members of the ECB ACO have been transitioned into the appropriate scoring level in the new pathway.

A full Competence Framework supports the Scoring Pathway, defining the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed at each level. It serves to guide a scorer's personal development, as well as ensuring a transparent and consistent approach to grading and promotion.

# WHAT DO THE LEVELS MEAN?

Different types of cricket are associated with each level. If, for example, you are an 'S3 – Representative Game Scorer – Recreational', then the types of cricket you would normally be expected to score would include National Counties, ECB County Age-Group competitions and Women's Tier 3 cricket.

The table below shows the types of cricket typically associated with each level of the pathway.

Level	Types of Cricket
<b>S5</b> Team Scorer	Adult Club Friendlies and Low-level league fixtures, Junior Club Cricket, Last Man Stand cricket, Indoor cricket.
<b>S4</b> Recreational Game Scorer	All other Adult League cricket, ECB County Age Group Friendlies, BUCS Cricket, Non-ECB Adult Cup competitions (e.g. Cricketer Cup), Schools Cricket Disability Cricket, County Masters Cricket (e.g. 50+).
<b>S3</b> Representative Game Scorer – Recreational	National Counties Cricket, National Disability Cricket Competitions (e.g. Disability Premier League), ECB County Age Group Competitions, MCC Matches, Women's Development and 2nd XI Cricket, Women's Tier 3 County Cricket Competitions.
<b>S2</b> Representative Game Scorer – Professional	ECB Festivals (Bunbury, Super 4's Men and Women), ECB County U18 & U16 Boys cricket, Men's Professional 2nd XI Cricket, Women's Tier 1 Academy and Tier 2 Cricket.
<b>S1</b> Professional Game Scorer	Men's Professional 1st XI Cricket, Senior England Women's Competitions and Matches, Women's Professional Cricket, England Lions & U19 (both genders), The Hundred.

# Example Progression Criteria – S5 to S4



## Team Scorer (S5) to Recreational Scorer (S4)

In order to obtain the level of Recreational Scorer (S4), the scorer must evidence the following:

- Having scored a minimum of 7 (seven) games in the current season
- Completion of the Scoring Techniques Educational Session\*
- Completion of the Duckworth Lewis-Stern (DLS) Educational Session



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# Scoring Training Modules

## Scoring Techniques

Introduces scorers to regular, repeatable scoring routines to ensure accuracy when scoring, how the umpiring and scoring teams work together for the smooth running of the game, key Laws of Cricket and how to accurately record penalty runs.

## Linear Scoring

Introduces scorers to Linear Scoring, explains the theory behind it, why a scorer might choose to use Linear Scoring and teaches the method by putting the skills into practice.

## Duckworth-Lewis Stern (DLS)

Introduces scorers to the theory behind DLS, the terminology involved and how to use the DLS calculators within PCS Pro and the Play-Cricket Scoring App.

## Statistics

Introduces scorers to the theory and relevance of certain statistics that are required of a scorer during a game and understanding how to record and report on relevant interruptions.

## PCS Pro Electronic Scoring (Windows Laptop)

Introduces scorers to scoring cricket matches via the Play-Cricket Scorer Professional (PCS-Pro) software and database, covering all key aspects from fixture creation and team selection to methodology on how to score a match and finalise the result accurately.



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# WACO Scoring Courses 2026

- **Online Scoring Course** – available to ACO members & non-members
- **Duckworth-Lewis-Stern** – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 1000-1300, Corsham CC
- **Scoring Techniques** – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 0930-1230, Beversbrook Calne
- **PCS Pro Electronic Scoring** – Sat 11<sup>th</sup> April 0930-1530, Beversbrook Calne

All courses this year are free of charge.

Details of all courses including online booking links are available on the Wiltshire Cricket website <https://www.wiltshirecricket.co.uk/> - look under “Officials”

# UMPIRING PATHWAY AND EDUCATION

## Kris Boulton, WACO Umpire Development Officer



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# Agenda

1. Umpiring Pathway
2. WACO Courses available 2026
3. Updates 2026

# 2026

The ECB Umpiring Pathways were launched ahead of the 2023 season. There are two pathways in which umpires are categorised, the Men's Game Pathway (M levels), and Women's Game Pathway (W levels). Umpires are categorised within each pathway, allowing differentiation and recognition of both regular activity in a chosen pathway of competition, and also the expected and commensurate level at which umpires are likely to officiate on a regular basis. The ECB Umpiring Pathway provides a clear and transparent process detailing how umpires may progress to higher levels of the game, subject to meeting specific criteria. Since the introduction of the ECB Umpire Progression Pathway, benefits include:

- A clear process for umpires to progress through to higher levels of recreational cricket.
- A pathway that links the recreational game through to the professional game has been established and embedded.
- Opportunities are based on the gender of competition, not the gender of umpire.
- Umpires have ownership and control over their own progression.

# UMPIRING PATHWAYS

The following diagram shows the Umpiring Pathways and associated competitions



<b>Men's Cricket</b>	All Junior, non-County Cricket & Social cricket	All other levels of Open Age Competition	Highest level County Feeder League Competition	ECB Premier Leagues (or equivalent)	NCCA, Professional 2nd XI Competitions	County Champs, One Day Cup, T20 Blast, Hundred
<b>Women's Cricket</b>	All Junior, non-County Cricket & Social cricket	All softball cricket competitions, Junior hardball competitions (Pairs)	Hardball leagues, County Junior Hardball	County Senior, County Age Groups, County Hardball Premier Leagues	Tier 2 One Day Cup, T20 Blast, Tier 1 Academy	Tier 1 One Day Cup, T20 Blast, Hundred

# PROMOTION CRITERIA

Promotion Scheme	Deadline for Expression of Interest for Promotion	Minimum Number of Matches (within gender of competition for promotion)	Minimum Number of Boundary Observations	Minimum Score for Boundary Observation	MCC Laws of the Game Exam	Judgement for Promotion Outcome
Level 6 to Level 5	N/A	5	N/A	N/A	Basic Test (Min. 80%)	County ACO
Level 5 to Level 4	30th April to County ACO*	7	1 <sup>o</sup>	38 <sup>o</sup>	Basic Test (Min. 80%)	County ACO
Level 4 to Level 3	30th April to County ACO	10	2 <sup>o</sup>	38 <sup>o</sup>	Intermediate Test (Min. 90%)	County ACO
Level 3 to Level 2	30th April to County ACO	15	3 <sup>o</sup>	N/A	Intermediate Test (Min. 90%)	ECB Officiating Department

# Pathway Notes

Must be a member of the ACO

Need to be appointed via  
WTU/WACO

Online Laws Test to be completed  
with Minimum Requirement met by  
End of May 2026

# WACO Umpire Courses 2026

- ECB ACO Umpire Introduction Course 22/3/26 @ Dauntsey School
- Umpire Development Course Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> April,  
2 x 3-hour sessions in the evening. @ Dauntsey School
- CPD's all done online in the evenings
- 17<sup>th</sup> March - Dead Ball
- 24<sup>th</sup> March - LBW
- 31<sup>st</sup> March - Managing Player Conduct
- WCB/WACO will be working on dates of further courses over the coming months.

# ECB ACO Updates 2026

- GWL Changes
  - Safety Changes
  - Concussion Protocols incl Appropriate Adult!
  - Junior Changes
  - Law 42 minor updates
- 
- Cards will be issued via WACO @ AGM/Pre season meeting

# OVERSEAS PLAYERS



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# Overseas Players Guidance

## For clarity:

- The ECB cannot provide immigration advice in relation to a specific individual.
- The ECB does not set eligibility criteria relating to immigration compliance for recreational cricket, including ECB Premier Leagues.
- Players and clubs are responsible for ensuring that participation also complies with immigration law, even where league registration rules are met.
- Where the ECB becomes aware of potential breaches of immigration law, we are required to notify the Home Office.
- Clubs should be aware that fielding a player who does not meet immigration requirements may expose them to criminal investigation and prosecution.

All relevant information - including the Home Office definition of an International Sportsperson, visa overviews, permitted activities, and GBE guidance - is available on the ECB website:

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/regulations/overseas>



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# REMINDERS



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# Club Affiliation



# Why are we introducing new affiliation requirements?

To elevate the standard of recreational cricket and ensure a positive, sustainable future for every club, we are introducing more structured affiliation requirements. This approach is designed to:

- **Make the game safer**  
Through clearer safeguarding, health, and safety standards.
- **Improve the club experience**  
By strengthening governance, planning, and operational practices.
- **Foster inclusivity**  
Ensuring cricket is welcoming and accessible to all.
- **Raise Standards across the game**  
Supporting clubs with tools, resources, and frameworks to thrive on and off the field.

Together, these steps will help build stronger, more resilient clubs and a better game for everyone.

Cricket  
Collective

**GET SET  
WEEKEND**

powered by



TOYOTA

**28-29 March 2026**

MARCH

**28-29**

**SAVE THE DATE**



# COUNTY GRANTS FUND





# 2026 Launch Dates

Clubspark system will not be closed for any significant period

29<sup>th</sup> Jan:  
Club Kick-Off  
Virtual Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Mar:  
Club-Led Priority  
Window

19<sup>th</sup> Mar:  
National  
Launch

8<sup>th</sup> May:  
Club delivery  
commences



February:  
Club Administration, Programme  
Set-Up & Activator Compliance  
RCBs Approve

12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> Mar:  
National Priority  
Window

# Q AND A OPPORTUNITY



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