



NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING PANEL

National Safeguarding Panel

Role Overview for Specialist Member

Overall Responsibilities

Individuals shall be appointed to provide National Governing Body (NGB) child safeguarding tribunals, panels, reviews and investigations with specialist knowledge and experience. The aim of such appointments is to improve the quality and consistency of decision making in respect of concerns about staff or volunteer's performance, capability or conduct in working with children, young people or adults at risk.

Specific Responsibilities

- To be available for appointment to NGB tribunals to make decisions in respect of concerns about staff or volunteer's performance, capability or conduct in working with children, young people or adults at risk; **and/or**
- To be available for appointment to undertake reviews or investigations arising from NGB concerns about staff or volunteer's performance, capability or conduct in respect of their work with children, young people or adults at risk.
- To prepare thoroughly by reading and assimilating relevant papers and reports.
- To impartially evaluate and/or gather evidence and information to assist in establishing the true facts.
- To cross examine **and/or** interview witnesses as required.
- To contribute to a reasoned written decision under the guidance of the chair; **and/or**
- To prepare written investigation reports.
- To contribute to the development of, and keep abreast of, best practice in safeguarding in sport.

Selection Criteria

- Principal professional practice/residence is in the United Kingdom.
- In possession of a Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) enhanced disclosure clearance.
- A nationally recognised professional qualification requiring expertise and skills in safeguarding, and/or management of offenders and risk; **and/or**
- A minimum of five years' experience of working in a safeguarding role in sport.
- Recent experience of sitting on safeguarding tribunals, panels or case management groups which have powers to decide on the suitability of individuals to work with children, young people or adults at risk; **and/or**
- Recent experience of undertaking investigations and of compiling reports relating to safeguarding concerns and complaints.
- A basic knowledge of employment law and other relevant legislation which concerns equality, disability discrimination, human rights law, and the safeguarding of vulnerable groups.
- An understanding and appreciation of the impact which abusive or discriminatory behaviour can have on children, young people and adults at risk including the additional vulnerability to abuse of some young people.
- An understanding and appreciation of behaviour which is indicative of 'grooming' with the intention to abuse a child or adult at risk.
- An understanding and appreciation of the support required for vulnerable witnesses and those accused of unsafe practice in work with children, young people and adults at risk.
- Ability to work alongside other professionals including the legal profession, the police and social workers.
- Ability to assess and analyse a variety of evidence both written and in other forms.
- Knowledge of best practice in conducting disciplinary proceedings and in particular those of sports governing bodies **and/or**
- Knowledge of best practice in undertaking statutory investigations, including the interviewing of adult and child witnesses and the recording of statements.

Last review (date)	October 2020
Reviewed by (name)	Panel Appointments and Review Committee
Next review and approval due (date)	March 2024