

## SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS & INFORMATION

### EBU SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Abbey Smith [safeguarding@ebu.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ebu.co.uk) can help with questions you may have.

### EBU SAFEGUARDING POLICY

[www.ebu.co.uk/article/safeguarding-policy](http://www.ebu.co.uk/article/safeguarding-policy)

### LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICERS (LADO)

are appointed by each Local Authority to manage allegations against adults who come into contact with children. <https://rb.gy/kbd9hr>

Local authorities have social workers who deal specifically with cases of abuse and neglect. Call the person's local council and ask for the adult safeguarding co-ordinator.

**NSPCC** provides information about

[safeguarding and child protection](#)

<https://rb.gy/neabmv>

**POLICE** can be contacted by phone on **101**

for non-emergency matters or **999** when it's an emergency.

**NHS** provides [information about abuse and neglect of adults at risk](#)

<https://rb.gy/43fe4s>



---

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN  
AND VULNERABLE ADULTS  
IN BRIDGE CLUBS**

---

## OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

As the national organisation for duplicate bridge, the EBU's membership includes both young people and vulnerable adults to whom we have a duty to ensure a safe environment whenever they are playing in our events, whether nationally, at county level or in clubs.

This leaflet is intended to help clubs by highlighting issues that they might not have thought of and provide some practical ideas to help them provide as safe an environment as possible for everyone.

Although some clubs do not have any junior members, they may nonetheless have occasional young players visit; most clubs will have older players, some of whom may have become frail or started to experience dementia. This can put them in a position where they could be taken advantage of, and we should all be aware of this and ready to offer help and protection if it seems to be needed.

While we primarily mean under-18s when we talk of young people, some over-18s are still at risk of being manipulated or pressured.

### Do:

- Take concerns expressed by young people seriously.
- Involve their parents/guardians in any arrangements you might make with young people, such as to play bridge with them.
- Ensure that other adults are nearby when you have any interaction with young people.
- Be aware of any of your actions that could be misinterpreted.
- Maintain a happy and safe environment for all in your club.

### Don't:

- Give personal information, such as contact details, to any young person in the club.
- Accept any personal information from young people except through their parents/guardians.
- Instigate or respond to physical contact with young people in the club; ensure you tell someone else, such as a committee member, if this happens.

## SAFEGUARDING OF VULNERABLE ADULTS

Be aware of the possibility of abuse or neglect of older members, both at home and in the club. This might show itself through changes in behaviour or in financial circumstances, physical injuries, or through things they tell you.

Watch out for signs that any of your members might be taking advantage of others, particularly those who are experiencing memory loss.

Report any concerns to their families or the appropriate authorities. For example, the police, social services, or a healthcare provider.

Offer support to vulnerable adults if they need to get help to access services such as medical care, counselling, or legal assistance.

Create a safe and supportive environment for vulnerable adults and respect their rights and dignity.

In a bridge club this can be as simple as checking that elderly or frail members have the means to have a safe journey home.