

Amateur Football Alliance

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Dear

Trust you are well.

Firstly, let me take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Dyahanne Sappleton and I am the newly appointed Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) for the Amateur Football Alliance (AFA).

I would also like to commend you on the good work you are doing.

As you are aware, Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. I am here to assist you in any way possible to make it easier for you to embed safeguarding within your league.

You may not be aware of the changes that are taking place in Open-Age football for clubs who have 16 / 17-year-old players. The FA now requires the following measures:

- The club will need to adopt and implement the FA club Safeguarding Children Policy
- All 16/17-year-old players will need to be recorded on the Whole Game System (WGS).
- Ensure that all coaches and Managers for teams do an FA Disclosure and Barring check (DBS) formally known as a Criminal Records Check (CRC).
- The club will need to appoint a Club Welfare Officer (CWO).
- Ensure the 16/17-year-old players know how to report any incidents of abuse.

Please note that none of these requirements are mandatory until the next season, however, the AFA would like to act proactively to ensure both a smooth transition and promote a safe environment for our young players/referees.

I will be arranging workshops and meetings to help with the transition process and will inform you of the dates in due course.

I am here to support you through the process so you are welcomed to call me on: 02087332613 or email me: Dyahanne.Sappleton@amateur-fa.com.

Kind regards

Dyahanne Sappleton

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