DBS Update - December 2025

Digital Verification for DBS

To make verification easier and more accessible, the ECB will be introducing Digital Verification into the DBS process next year as part of their ongoing commitment to improvement.

A Digital Verification is an electronic record that meets DBS identity requirements. This new option will result in the following:

- Faster results and remote convenience: Results are delivered online, enabling quicker completion of DBS checks without the need to present physical documents or meet a verifier in person
- Greater data accuracy: Digital verification helps ensure information is correct from the start
- Equivalent to paper-based checks: Digital Verification provides a fully valid alternative, meeting DBS requirements just as traditional paper checks do
- Time saver for Club & County verifiers: Applicants can complete the entire application independently, without requiring action from a club verifier
- Please note there will be a small fee for applicants who choose the Digital Verification option. Those who prefer an in-person check (for example, at their local cricket club) may continue to do so.

DBS revision of identity-check terms

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) team has revised its identity-check terms to add “personal friend” as a category of candidate whose DBS cannot be verified by someone who is a personal friend.
The ECB recognise that asking a volunteer to verify the ID of a personal friend can present a potential risk.

That risk is mitigated by the training and support provided through the Safe Hands Course and by County Safeguarding Officers.

In many recreational cricket clubs’ volunteers know one another personally.

To avoid creating barriers to completing DBS checks, attendance at the Safe Hands Course is required so volunteers can carry out checks correctly and safely.

When a verifier knows the candidate, the established procedures and training should ensure checks are completed appropriately and risks are managed.

If a verifier feels uncomfortable checking an individual’s documents, they should decline and refer the check to another verifier or to their County Safeguarding Officer.

Changes to DBS and ECB/Atlantic Data Arrangements

Terms of use of the Disclosures Manager System

Over the last few months the ECB has worked with their supplier, Atlantic Data (ADL), to update their working protocols, contractual arrangements and privacy notice to ensure compliance with changes imposed by the Disclosure and Barring Service and also with UK GDPR. This process is now complete.

As part of the new way of working, on first login, each Authorised User (such as a verifier) will be presented with the 'Terms of Use for Authorised Users and Cricket Organisations' (the Terms of Use). These Terms of Use:

- explain what Authorised Users are required to do when using the ADL Disclosures Manager System (set out in Part A of the Terms of Use)
- provide details of how the Authorised User's personal data will be used; and
- set out the data processing terms that apply between ADL and the Cricket Organisation (set out in Part B of the Terms of Use).

It is important that each Cricket Organisation reads the Terms of Use carefully (a copy is attached to this message) and only allows a person to be an Authorised User if they are authorised by the Cricket Organisation to accept the provisions in Part B of the Terms of Use on behalf of that Cricket Organisation.

The Authorised User will be asked to read the Terms of Use and will be required to 'click' to confirm agreement to them.

We hope this message and the summary make it easy for all Authorised Users to understand what is expected of them.

If you have any specific queries, please email DBS@ecb.co.uk .