



Safeguarding Newsletter

Thank you for all the feedback provided at the end of last year. I am in the process of reviewing it and will be publishing guidance and updates to address the points made. Please continue to provide feedback if you have any queries. Most people requested Quarterly Newsletters, so here is the Q1 2026 version. We will also look into further webinars and Q&A sessions as requested by some.

We have secured two FREE training sessions via the [LondonSport network](#).



These sessions are open to welfare officers across the country and are mandatory for those in the CWO/AWO role. If you'd like to book on, please click on either of the dates below to secure your place - **spaces are limited to 15 per session** and will be given out on a first come first served basis.

Training will take place online on the following dates;

- [Tuesday 24th Feb 6-9pm](#)
- [Thursday 26th March 6-9pm](#)

We will be running sessions on further dates so if these dates don't suit, please [let me know](#) what times/dates would and I'll see what we can offer.

Lower-Level Concerns

Last week, we welcomed Liza Ware from the [CSPU](#) to talk about [Lower-Level Concerns](#). If you missed the webinar, then a recording is [now available online](#).

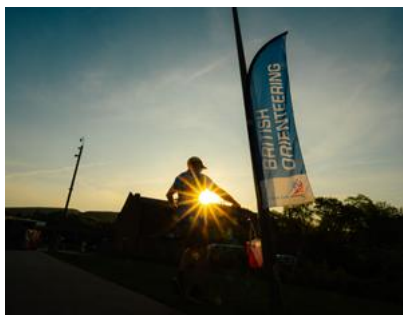
We talked through some of the concerns that have been raised with British Orienteering over the past 6 months. A Lower-Level concern is any behaviour, incident, or pattern of conduct that;

- Falls short of the Code of Conduct or safeguarding expectations but does not meet the threshold for referral to statutory agencies; and
- May still pose a risk to welfare, safety or the culture of the club if repeated or unaddressed.

British Orienteering would like all Lower-Level Concerns to be raised to them so that they can be logged centrally. If you need help or guidance addressing these concerns, please do ask for guidance. [Learn more](#)

Updated guidance

We've recently published updated policies or guidance on the following areas:



Photography

This policy applies to everyone who attends orienteering events and/or activities and sets out the safeguarding principles, best practice and steps needed to comply with relevant legislation when taking, using and storing images. [View update](#)

CPSU guidance on transporting junior in cars



This guidance explains best practice for adults when transporting children and young people to and from sporting activities.

[Learn more](#)

Club Webpages All Club and Association websites should have a clear link to their own safeguarding pages. Can you please ensure yours contains the correct information, using this [template](#). It will need amending slightly to add your own details, but it can be copied straight onto your web pages.

The template also links to the new [Incident Reporting form](#), which is on the British Orienteering website. Please ensure your Club pages feed through to these.

Coming soon...

Look out for our updated Trips Away and Social Media guidance which will be release shortly. We are also hoping to release our guidance on Dementia which will be followed by a webinar on the subject by Dementia Friends.

Finally, we have recently welcomed Gregg Peers as an independent Board member, and he will be joining our [Safeguarding and Welfare Advisory Group](#). It would be fantastic to see some of you involved, please do get in touch if you'd like to do so.

The next newsletter will be out in mid Q2 2026. Please do let me know if there is anything you'd like to be covered in it.

Warm regards,

Jeanette Downing
Development and Lead Safeguarding Officer