



**SUFFOLK
CRICKET**
AFFILIATION 2026



Affiliation 2026

Affiliation is the formal process by which your Club becomes a recognised member of the regulated cricket community.

By affiliating to Suffolk Cricket Board you establish a relationship with us and, by extension, the England and Wales Cricket Board (“ECB”), that enables you to gain access to a whole host of benefits only available to affiliated clubs, such as access to a range of funding opportunities and entry to national competitions.

By affiliating you demonstrate a commitment to protecting the quality and integrity of the game through your acceptance of the regulatory jurisdiction of Suffolk Cricket Board the ECB and the Cricket Regulator; in return, you will be provided with ongoing support to help you manage the challenges that arise during the course of running a cricket club.

More details about the benefits available to affiliated clubs can be found on our website:
www.suffolkcricket.org/recreationalcricket/affiliation



Benefits of Affiliation 2026



Support and Guidance from county development staff on:

- External funding opportunities
- Club Development planning through the ECB Thriving Club Strategy and ECB National Product (All Stars/Dynamos)*
- Achieving and maintaining Safehands Management System (SHMS) compliance*
- Achieving and maintaining ECB Accredited Club Status (formally Clubmark)*
- Adopting and implementing ECB Club Inclusion and Diversity Policy*
- Chance to Shine coaching programme to develop club/school links*
- Developing Women and Girls cricket*
- Safeguarding*
- Disability Hubs*
- ECB Young Cricket Collective programme*

Eligibility to participate in:

- Open Age Leagues and Competitions
- Junior Leagues administered by Suffolk Cricket
- National ECB Competitions

Affiliation to Suffolk Cricket / ECB:

- Full access to free ECB Play-Cricket website
- Access to Safe Hands Management System

Support Services:

- Access to County Pitch Advisor
- Access to Suffolk Grounds Network Events, Training and support services

*These benefits are available to clubs through the County Board that they are 'Primary Affiliated to

Benefits of Affiliation 2026

Access to ECB / Suffolk Cricket through :

- Safeguarding, policy, workshops and resources
- Disciplinary, regulations and compliance (General Conduct Regulations (GCR) / Recreational Conduct Regulations (RCR))
- Cricket Collective Volunteer Awards, nominations and programme *
- Coach Development and Officials education courses and CPD programmes
- Participation in ECB “Get Set Weekend” *

*These benefits are available to clubs through the County Board that they are ‘Primary Affiliated to

Eligibility to access:

- England & Wales Trust (EWCT) Grant Aid loans and other National Governing Body funding *
- Free game wide insurance policy through SHMS *



ECB Safe Hands Management System

ECB Safe Hands Management System (SHMS) is an online Club Management Tool whereby the ECB requires all County Boards and Clubs to input the details of individuals in key regulated roles or those with responsibilities for the management and running of County and Club activities.

All clubs are now asked to join and be actively engaging with SHMS and as such clubs are required to confirm the details of the person that will be taking on the role of club administrator for this system.

All affiliated clubs should be on boarded to SHMS by 1st May 2026 and have a compliant named Club Safeguarding Officer listed.

More information on the SHMS can be found [HERE](#)



ECB Free Game-wide Insurance

Once onboarded to SHMS, clubs can access free Public Liability Insurance via the ECB and Howdens Insurance brokers.

This provides clubs with the following levels of cover:

- **Public Liability** - £15 million. Accidental injury to third parties and property damage. Includes member-to-member liability.
- **Professional Indemnity** - £10 million. Protection for coaches against claims for errors in professional advice and coaching.
- **Property Owners Liability** - £15 million. Liability arising from use, ownership, or possession of club premises and facilities.
- **Safeguarding coverage** - up to £2million. Protection against allegations of failing in duty to create safe environment.
- **Directors & Officers liability** - £2 million any claim. Personal liability protection for committee members, directors, and trustees.
- **Cyber Liability** - £50,000. Data breaches, cyber attacks, and online fraud. £10,000 for cyber crime per loss.

More information on the FREE insurance offer can be found [HERE](#)



Levels of Affiliation

There are 3 levels of affiliation for clubs and organisations to sign up for in 2026.

- ECB Clubmark / ECB Accredited Club - £70
- Non ECB Clubmark / ECB Accredited Club - £50
- Secondary Affiliation (your Primary Affiliation is with a different County Board / Foundation) - £35



Conditions of Affiliation



Renewal Dates and Deadlines - The affiliation year runs from 1st February 2026 to 31st January 2027. The deadline for renewal of affiliation is 28th February 2026. If your affiliation renewal is not received by this date then your current affiliation package will be suspended and its benefits will no longer be available.

Suffolk Cricket Board / ECB Terms of Affiliation - All clubs will need to confirm they have adopted the Suffolk Cricket Board / ECB Terms of Affiliation. This is available to view [HERE](#).

The Terms & Conditions document outlines the expectations of clubs in relation to: [ECB Anti-Discrimination Regulations](#), [ECB General Conduct Regulations](#), [Recreational Conduct Regulations](#), [ECB Safe Hands Policy](#), [ECB Safe Hands Management System](#), [Suffolk Cricket Limited Policies](#).

The ECB have developed an [Affiliation Tool Kit](#) to support clubs with preparing and updating documents / policies.

Safe Hands - Suffolk Cricket take the care and responsibilities of all club members very seriously. All affiliated Clubs, as a minimum operating standard, are required to adopt the [ECB Safehands Policy](#) in their Club constitution

Club Safeguarding Officer - A required part of the ECB Safehands Policy is the appointment and training of a Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) who will advise and ensure that Safeguarding is being adhered to in the club. Suffolk Cricket/ECB require all Clubs to appoint and train their own Club Safeguarding Officer ready for the 2026 season. The CSO must complete two training courses – ECB Safeguarding Level 2 (online) and ECB Safehands Workshop (face to face) and complete an ECB Enhanced DBS or vetting check.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) - Some volunteer roles such as Safeguarding Officer, Umpire, Junior Manager, Captain and Coach, require a vetting or ECB Enhanced DBS check. For a list of volunteer roles that require a DBS check, please go to the [England & Wales Cricket Board Website](#) or email safeguarding@suffolkcricket.org. Please note that some volunteer roles, such as coach and team manager, are **ALSO** required to complete an online ECB Safeguarding course and/or a First Aid course in addition to the DBS check.

Online Application Form

To complete the affiliation process, click [HERE](#)

For further details please contact:

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