



National Safeguarding & Integrity Report 2026

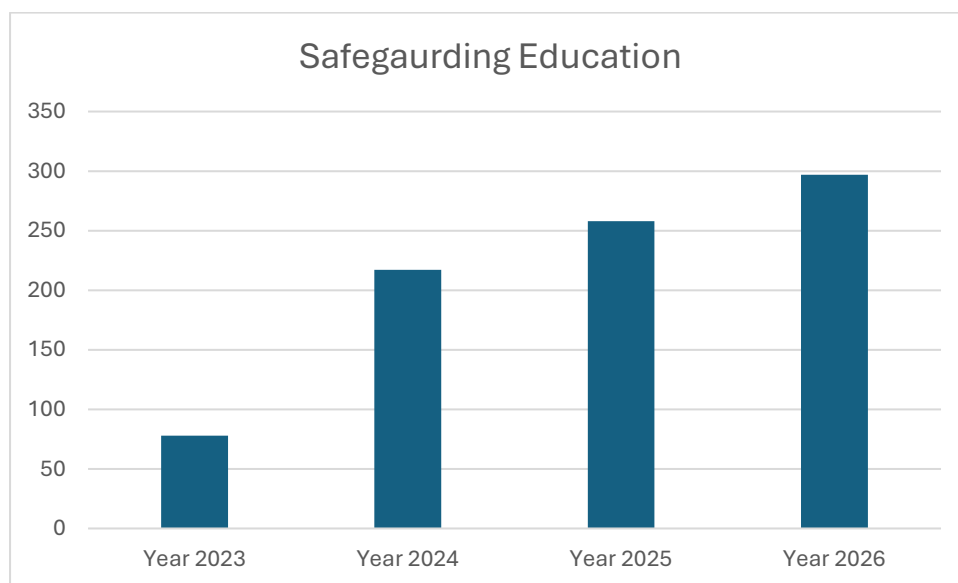
National Committee: Jennifer O'Sullivan-Coffey (**Chairperson/Munster CPO**) Anto Donnelly (**Board of Directors**), Anna Moore (**Central Council**), Ronan Kelly (**Dublin CPO**), Sibheal Greene (**Connacht CPO**), Margeter Lambe (**Leinster CPO**) Patrick McLaverty (**Antrim/Ulster CPO**) and Stephen Flynn (**SGIM IABA/Secretary**)

Firstly, I would like to recognise the work of the committee not only in their time in attending meetings but for their role in policy development, case management, vetting reviews, feedback and support over the past year.

Safeguarding Training:

Boxing Ireland's proactive approach to supporting our clubs in best practices, through education is evident in the number of Safeguarding Courses delivered both online and in person in 2026 across the Association.

To date we have delivered 15 Safeguarding 1 basic awareness courses (SG1) online and in person, There are also another 6 scheduled for the remainder of 2026. There have been 297 coaches and club administrators trained on SG1. There was also the delivery of three SG2 courses with 24 Club Children's Officers trained. This would not have been possible without the availability of our trained Safeguarding Tutors.



**Data Taken 29/09/2026*

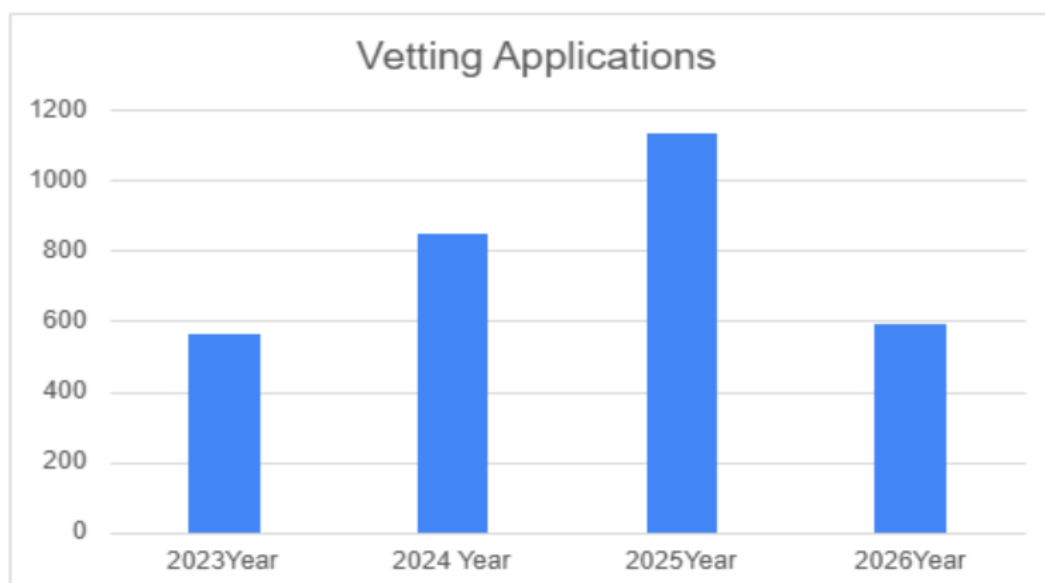
Youth Mental Health First Aid Training added to our suite of club supports in the final quarter of 2024. The training is free for all Boxing Ireland participants and is funded and supported by the HSE and St. John of Gods Services. We also work closely with Sligo Family Resource centre who co deliver with Boxing Ireland on this training and thank them for their partnership on this project.

We delivered one online and one in person course during 2026. There were 27 attendees in total across the two trainings. There will be one more online training with dates to be confirmed for last quarter of 2026.



Vetting:

We thank all the Club Children's Officers and administrators who process and send application in for their members. Below are some numbers on vetting in comparison to 2024,2025,2026 year to date data. There was a significant decrease in the processing of completed applications this year compared to 2024/2025 with notably fewer incomplete applications or expired invites.



*2023,2024,2025 Full year data, 2026 Year to date 28/09/2026

From a compliance perspective we have successfully completed our Access NI audit for the association, our gratitude to the Ulster staff who continue to be diligent and ensuring highest standards on processing applications for our members. We continue to have spot check and compliance audits from the NVB at random intervals with a full audit on compliance completed in March 2026 this year.

Even with a decrease in applications our compliance rate continues to be quite high. During our National BG123 Championships of all coaches entered to corner at the tournament less than 2.5% has no in date vetting. The lower application rate is due to the switch from 5 year to 3-year vetting which occurred in 2022. The numbers for renewal in 2022 and 2021 were very low in those years.

Some other important milestones for mention:

Review of the Safeguarding Strategic plan 2024-2028, This is a live document and is reviewed twice annually. The document is audited by the CPSU in Northern Ireland. We continue to implement the best practices across all 32 counties, and more work will be required on this. The next scheduled review of this document will be November 2026.

Safeguarding and Policy Review: In line with best practice a review of our National Policy and its appendices were conducted by Tulsa's compliance department early in 2026. The feedback was largely positive especially in areas of reporting and case management practices. Our National Safeguarding Statement was renewed and with



our rebranding new fresh versions (Version 3.0) of these are available on our websites. No major informational changes were made.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: We would like to recognise the importance of this work where the Organisations has earned the Bronze accreditation in Inclusion and diversity. Boxing continues to strive to be an inclusive sport within our communities. Boxing Ireland hope to deliver many more EDI training workshops for clubs through their operational plan for 2026/2027.

Underage Team Ireland: 2026 was a very successful year both inside and outside the ring for our international boxers at juvenile level. All training camps and away trips were supervised and delivered to the highest standard. Feedback and continual improvements into our preparation of our Team Managers Coaches, Parents and Boxers prior to and post trip is an area we wish to strengthen looking ahead to 2026. Our congratulations to all who represented their county in 2026.

Complaints, Concerns & Feedback Policy: Early in 2026 to assist Club, County Boards, Provincial units the Complaints concerns and feedback policy was brought in where members can submit a grievance directly. It can be triaged through to the appropriate channel. This has removed the backlog from discipline and has allowed complaints and concerns to Be dealt with in a timelier fashion. The complaints and concerns and feedback portal is available on the Boxing Ireland Website.

Summary

As we continue to work toward our ambitious goals as set out in our Safeguarding Strategy and within the framework of our 2024-2028 Strategic plan, *In Your Corner*, there are big opportunities for making the sport of boxing a leader in safe sport and inclusivity. Our new membership management platform will play a big role in this and I would urge clubs to get involved with the training opportunities in the next few months on how best the system will make administration of your club easier and more streamlined.

I would like to commend the thousands of volunteers who coach, administer and support our members on a daily and weekly basis helping foster young athletes love for boxing and lifelong learning in a child centred environment.

Stephen Flynn

National Safeguarding & Integrity Manager

On behalf of the National Safeguarding & Integrity Committee