

## **FIRST AID REQUIREMENTS AT BOWLS CLUBS.**

Members welfare is always a top concern for the ESMBA and NSMBA - and , in an ideal world, it would be great if clubs had trained first aiders; but when you consider some clubs have only 6 members or less, we would encourage this but it is very hard to mandate.

However, the ESMBA has been looking at the overall matter of medical wellbeing of members for a while now and have already acted.

### **ICE CARDS**

Each ESMBA member was issued with an **In Case of Emergency** card in 2020. If ESMBA members carry their ICE cards with them in their bowls bags as recommended, then medical responders or club members have easy access to their medical history and emergency contacts should the need arise.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Last season the ESMBA highlighted, through safeguarding reports and presentations, the need for 'Safer membership'.. This included a recommendation that members be asked if they have any medical conditions which the club should be aware of. Rather than being 'intrusive' ensures the club is aware of how best to react if a member has an underlying health issue such as diabetes, epilepsy or suffer severe allergic reaction.

### **COACHES.**

It is a recommendation that ESMBA approved coaches have first aid training as there is a chance they may be working on a one to one basis with players.

### **CLUB HEALTH CHECKER.**

Additionally in December 2022 - the ESMBA added a new section on the web to offer support to both new clubs and existing clubs which included a **'Club Health Checker'**.

One of the sections on this document covers medical emergency - and asks questions such as "does the venue have a first aid kit, a defibrillator, etc?."

This Health Checker is a tool to help clubs make informed decisions.

The same could be said for counties running competitions, as they usually have much larger numbers attending and it is something each county should look at with its own venue etc

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