



## Rule of Two Policy

**Purpose:** The Rule of Two is to ensure all interactions and communications are open, observable, and justifiable. Its purpose is to protect participants (especially minors) and coaches in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring that a coach is never alone with an athlete. There may be exceptions for emergency situations. The Rule of Two states that there will always be two screened and NCCP-trained or certified coaches with an athlete in situations where the athlete is potentially vulnerable. One-on-one interactions between a coach and an athlete, without another individual present, must be avoided in all circumstances except medical emergencies.

**Scope:** This policy applies specifically to our rep players, coaches, parents/guardians. Although the principles should be followed by all.

### Policy and Practice Requirements:

- The coach is never alone and out of sight with a participant without another screened coach or screened adult (parent or volunteer) present. If NCCP-trained or certified coaches are not available, a screened “Person in Authority” (such as managers, support personnel, chaperones, or director of the club or organization) should be present instead. If a screened Person in Authority or other volunteer is not available, another adult (such as a parent/guardian of another athlete in a youth environment or another athlete in a senior environment), should be asked to temporarily substitute. If another adult is not available, there should always be more than one athlete with the coach (this is the lowest standard and is not recommended).
- Allow training environment to be open to observation.
- Inform parents/guardians and players (particularly in a senior environment) that the club or team is aiming to achieve the highest expectation for the Rule of Two; that is, that two screened and NCCP-trained or certified coaches should always be present with an athlete

## **Special Guidelines:**

### **Travel**

The following guidelines are strongly recommended during travel with athletes: a. A Person in Authority may not be alone in a car with an athlete unless the Person in Authority is the athlete's parent/ guardian b. A Person in Authority may not share a room or be alone in a hotel room with an athlete unless the Person in Authority is the athlete's parent or guardian c. Room or bed checks during overnight stays must be done by two Persons in Authority

### **Training / Competition Environment**

The following guidelines are strongly recommended for the training and competition environment (including before, during, and after practices and games):

- a. A Person in Authority should never be alone with an athlete prior to or following a game or practice, unless the Person in Authority is the athlete's parent or guardian.
- b. If the athlete is the first athlete to arrive, the athlete's parent/guardian should remain until another athlete or Person in Authority arrives. If an athlete drives themselves, the athlete should wait for another athlete to arrive before going to the field
- c. If an athlete would potentially be alone with a Person in Authority following a game or practice, the Person in Authority should ask another Person in Authority (or a parent/guardian of another athlete or another athlete in a senior environment) to stay until all the athletes have been picked up. If an adult is not available, then another athlete should be present in order to avoid the Person in Authority being alone with a single athlete
- d. Persons in Authority giving instructions, demonstrating skills, or facilitating drills or lessons to an individual athlete should always be doing so within earshot and eyesight of another Person in Authority

### **Gender Identity**

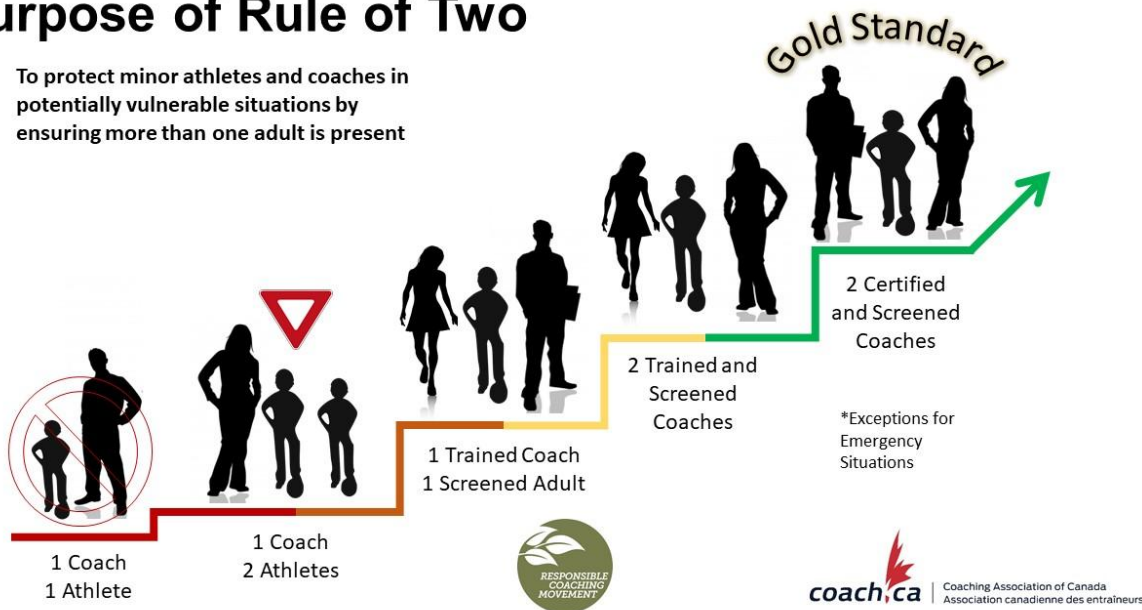
A Person in Authority who is interacting with athletes should be of the same gender identity as the athletes. The following guidelines are strongly recommended:

- a. For teams consisting of athletes of just one gender identity, a Person in Authority of the same gender identity should be available to participate or attend every interaction

b. For teams consisting of athletes of more than one gender identity (e.g., co-ed teams), a Person in Authority of each gender identity should be available to participate or attend every interaction.

## Purpose of Rule of Two

To protect minor athletes and coaches in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring more than one adult is present



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Effective Date	Last Revised Date	Review Cycle	Next Review Date
May 1, 2017	July 2021	Every three years	July 2024