

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCCER CLUB

In Mississauga



Purpose

The International Soccer Club (ISC) is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for all athletes, coaches, volunteers, and team officials. This Rule of Two Policy aligns with the standards set out by Canada Soccer's Guide to Safety and the Coaching Association of Canada's Rule of Two Guidelines.

The Rule of Two is a core Safe Sport principle that aims to protect athletes and coaches alike by ensuring that a minimum of two responsible adults (Persons in Authority) are present in potentially vulnerable situations.

Person in Authority

A **Person in Authority** includes any of the following who are acting in an official capacity with ISC:

- NCCP-trained or certified coaches
- Screened volunteer coaches
- Assistant coaches
- Team managers or officials
- ISC staff
- The athlete's parent or legal guardian

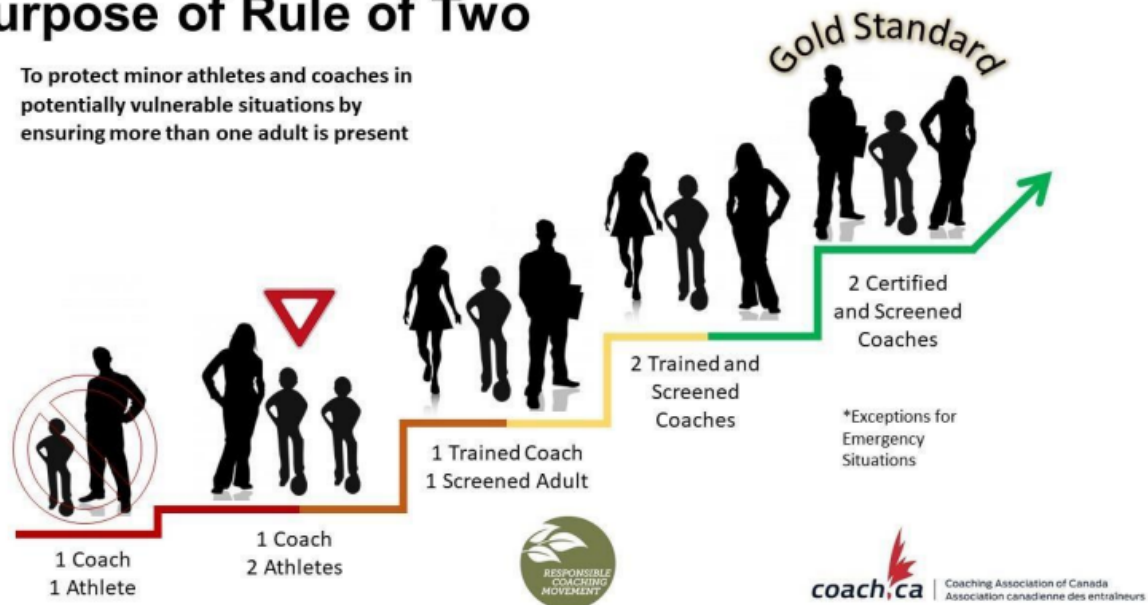
Gold Standard: The Rule of Two is best upheld when both Persons in Authority are **NCCP-trained or certified coaches**.

Core Principles of the Rule of Two

- **Two Persons in Authority** must be present with an athlete in any potentially vulnerable situation.
- **One-on-one interactions** between a coach and an athlete must be avoided at all times, unless in a **medical emergency**.
- In any necessary one-on-one interaction (e.g., injury, confidential discussion), the interaction must occur:
 - **In an open and observable environment**, and
 - With the presence of a second adult **of the same gender identity** as the athlete whenever possible, or with the athlete's **parent/guardian**.

Purpose of Rule of Two

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



Standards and Guidelines

Travel

- A Person in Authority must not be alone in a vehicle with an athlete unless they are the athlete's parent or guardian.
- A Person in Authority must not share a hotel room or be alone in a hotel room with an athlete unless they are the athlete's parent or guardian.
- Room or bed checks during overnight trips must always be conducted by two Persons in Authority.

2. Locker Rooms, Changing Areas, and Meeting Rooms

- One-on-one interactions in private spaces such as locker rooms, washrooms, or meeting rooms should be avoided.
- If interaction is necessary in these spaces, two Persons in Authority must be present.
- If adults are not permitted inside a changing room, a Person in Authority must be positioned just outside the door and available to respond if needed.

3. Training and Competition Environment

- Coaches should never be alone with an athlete before or after training, games, or team events.
- If an athlete is first to arrive, a parent should remain until another athlete or Person in Authority arrives.
- After the session, if only one athlete remains, the coach should:

- Ask another adult (parent or Person in Authority) to wait, or
 - Remain in an open, visible, and public location with the athlete until pickup.
- One-on-one coaching (e.g., private lessons or technical demonstrations) must be done within earshot and eyesight of another adult.

Gender Identity Considerations

- For teams consisting of athletes of one gender identity, a Person in Authority of that same gender identity should be present for all interactions.
- For co-ed teams, there should be at least one Person in Authority of each gender identity present whenever possible.

Enforcement & Education

- ISC will ensure all coaches, volunteers, and staff are educated on this policy during onboarding and annual training.
- The Rule of Two must be integrated into all team and club activities including travel, training, games, and meetings.
- This policy is subject to revision in line with updated guidance from Canada Soccer, Safe Sport, or the Coaching Association of Canada.

Reporting and Concerns

Any breaches of this policy or concerns about interactions between adults and athletes should be reported to ISC's Club Safety Officer or Designated Safe Sport Contact immediately and will be investigated following ISC's Code of Conduct and Safe Sport protocols.