



Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect our athletes and ensure their absolute safety when travelling with Fusion FC. Athletes are most vulnerable to misconduct during travel, particularly overnight stays. This includes a high risk of athlete-to-athlete misconduct. During travel, athletes are often away from their families and support networks, and the setting – new changing areas, locker rooms, facilities, automobiles and hotel rooms – is less structured and less familiar.

Section One – Overview

Team travel is defined as overnight travel to play soccer or other team activity that is planned and supervised by a coach, team manager, employees, volunteers or other adult participants of Fusion FC.

- a) The **Travel Code of Conduct** must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults travelling with Fusion FC.
- b) Team managers chaperoning athletes must be members of Fusion FC and have successfully passed the criminal record check.
- c) Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with an athlete (unless the coach is the parent, guardian, or sibling of that athlete).

Section Two - Guidelines

- a) During team travel, when doing room checks, attending team meetings and/or activities, the Rule of Two and open and observable environments should be maintained.
- b) Athletes should not ride in a coach's vehicle without another adult present who is the same gender as the athlete, unless prior parental permission is obtained.
- c) During overnight team travel, if athletes are paired with other athletes they shall be of the same gender and should be a similar age and team managers, acting as chaperones, will stay in nearby rooms.
- d) When only one athlete and one coach travel together (for example, to an ID Camp for University), the athlete must have his/her parents' (legal guardian's) written permission in advance to travel alone with the coach and the coach and the athlete should attempt to establish a "buddy" club to associate with during the ID camp and when away from the venue.
- e) To ensure the propriety of the athletes and to protect the staff, there will be no male athletes in female athlete's room and no female athletes in male athlete's rooms (unless the other athlete is a sibling of that athlete).
- f) A team official (coach or team manager) must obtain a signed **Indemnification and Release Form** for each athlete prior to team travel.
- g) The team official should carry a signed **Medical Consent/Authorization to Treat Form** for each athlete during the trip.
- h) Curfews shall be established by the coach or team manager on each day of the trip, based on game times and other planned team events, and all athletes shall abide by the curfew.
- i) Staff travelling with the team will attend all team functions including meetings, practices, meals, etc. unless otherwise excused or instructed by the head coach or his/her designee.



- j) Athletes are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip and are not to leave the venue, the hotel, a restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
- k) When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc., athletes will stay in groups of no less than three persons. Athletes 12 & under must be accompanied by a chaperone when visiting public places.
- l) The Head Coach or his/her designee shall make a written report of violations of the Travel Policy or the Travel Code of Conduct to the General Manager and the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of any minor athlete who violates this travel policy or the Travel Code of Conduct.

Section Three – Other

Safety

- a) Additional safety-related guidelines may be established and communicated to the athletes, as needed, by the coaches.
- b) Respect the privacy of each other.
- c) When making accommodation arrangements, team managers and/or Fusion FC staff should:
 - a. book hotel rooms with interior entrances where possible, and
 - b. book hotel accommodations rather than short-term rental home accommodations due to the increased security, privacy, and regulatory oversight of commercial hotels over short-term rental home accommodations.
- d) Always wear footwear in hallways at the hotel.
- e) Athletes are not allowed to leave the hotel or go to other floors or other rooms unless authorized by staff.
- f) Always wear seat belts, where available, and remain seated in vehicles.

Behaviour

- a) Be quiet and respect the rights of teammates and others in the hotel.
- a) Be on time for all team events, meals and activities.
- b) Do not use electronics at team events, meals, or in public. Refrain from using electronics around teammates during other times as travel time is an opportunity to get to know and bond with teammates.
- c) Staff may collect personal electronics to prevent usage after curfew.
- d) Respect travel vehicles and accommodations, ensuring appropriate behaviour and that all garbage is removed and the vehicle or accommodation is left clean and tidy.
- e) Adhere to the travel dress code as set by Fusion FC.

Financial

- a) No room service, mini bar purchases or hotel or travel expenses of any kind may be incurred without permission of a team official.



- b) Athletes must participate in group meals, although accommodations will be made for allergies and other significant dietary limitations.
- c) Athletes (and/or their parent(s) or legal guardians(s)) are responsible for any incidental charges, damage, or theft occurring in connecting with the athlete's stay in a hotel or use of transportation.

General

- a) Athlete's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are responsible for getting players to and picked up from stated departure and arrival points for team travel.
- b) Athlete's parents and families must follow any additional travel protocol as set by Fusion FC when attending team travel trips.