



Purpose

This rule serves to protect minor athletes in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring that more than one adult is present. Vulnerable situations can include close doors meetings, travel, and training environments. Fusion FC endeavours to limit the instances where these situations are possible.

Rule of Two

There will always be two screened and NCCP trained or certified coaches with an athlete, especially a minor athlete, when in a potentially vulnerable situation. This means that any one-on-one interaction between a coach and an athlete must take place within earshot and view of the second coach, with the exception of medical emergencies.

In the event where screened and NCCP trained or certified coaches are not available, a screened volunteer, parent, or adult can be recruited. In all instances, one coach/volunteer must reflect the genders of the athletes participating or be of an appropriate identity in relation to the athlete(s).

Individuals in a supervisory role should be appropriate for, and acceptable to, the individual athlete.

Applying the Rule of Two - Travel

See [Fusion FC Travel Policy](#)

Applying the Rule of Two – Locker Room

See [Fusion FC Locker Room Policy](#)

Applying the Rule of Two in a Virtual Setting

The Rule of Two should continue to apply to all minor athletes in virtual environments (additionally, for those athletes under age 16, a parent or guardian should be present during the session where possible). It is recommended that the Rule of Two be applied to non-minor athletes, as well, in the current circumstances.

Rule of Two in a Virtual Setting Implementation Practices and Practical Tips

- a. For every session, the Rule of Two requires two adult coaches be present, or one coach and one adult (parent, guardian, volunteer, club administrator) – one-on-one sessions should be prohibited.
- b. A clear statement of professional standards expected of the coach during calls should be communicated – (i.e., sessions are not social engagements, and should be focused on training/coaching).
- c. Encourage parents/guardians to debrief with athletes about virtual training on a weekly basis.
- d. Parents/guardians should be fully informed beforehand about the activities undertaken during the sessions, as well as the process of the virtual session.
- e. It is recommended to record sessions where that capacity exists.
- f. Communication during each session should be in an open and observable environment (i.e., avoid bedrooms) in the athlete’s home (athlete’s parents’/guardians’ home), and the coach must initiate the session from an appropriate location (i.e., avoid bedrooms or “overly personal”/unprofessional settings).

- g. Parents/guardians should be required to consent to virtual sessions prior to each session, if irregularly scheduled, or prior to the first session if there is a series of regularly scheduled sessions.
- h. Prohibit one-on-one texting, emailing or online contact between coach and athlete – any texting, emailing or online contact should be limited to group text/email that includes at least 2 adults (2 coaches or 1 coach and 1 adult (parent, guardian, volunteer, club administrator), and limited to coaching (non-social) matters, and parents of minor athletes should be provided the opportunity to receive these texts/emails
 - Social media contact by coach to athlete should be prohibited (including the sharing of memes, non-training video, etc.)



Purpose of Rule of Two

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

Gold Standard

