



CHILD SAFETY/ RULE OF TWO POLICY

Overview

The Petawawa Minor Soccer Club (PMSC) acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard all minors that are entrusted into the care of the organization. PMSC is committed to providing a safe environment for all of our members. A child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration. All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, ability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation. All suspicion and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in soccer should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse.

Rule of Two

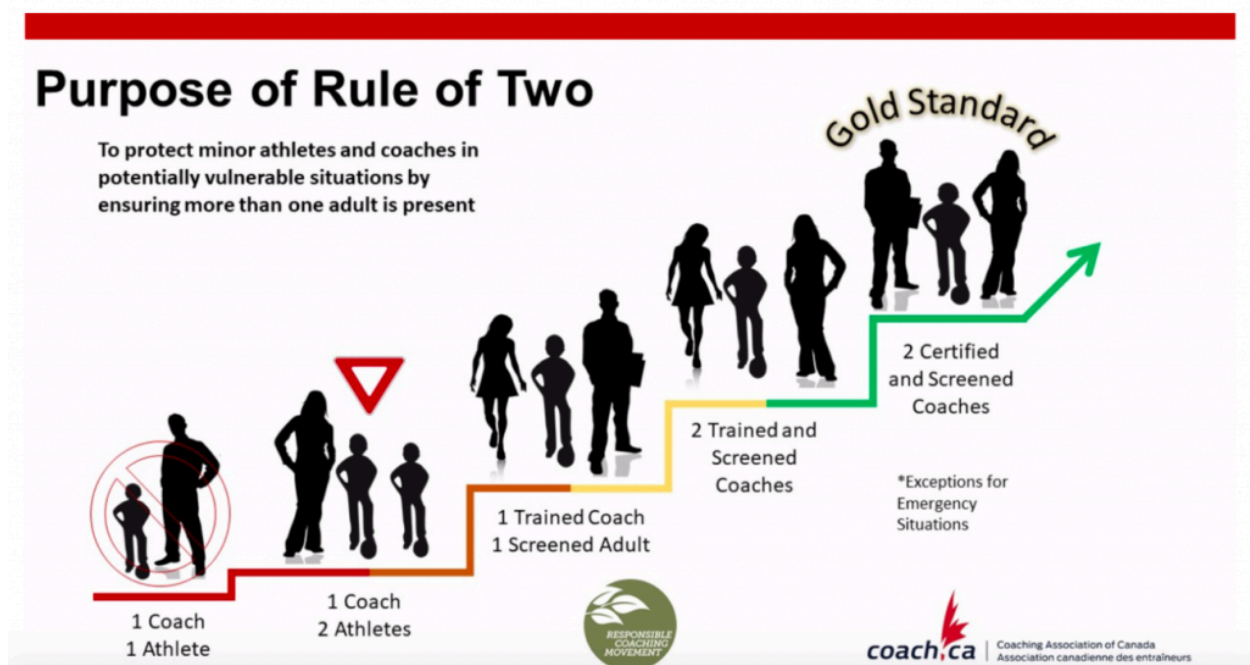
The **Rule of Two** states that there should be at least two adults present with any athlete at all times. It means that an adult, other than the child's own parent/guardian, is never alone or out of sight with a child. All one-on-one interactions between a coach and an athlete must take place within earshot and in view of the second adult, except in medical emergencies.

The Rule of Two, as implemented by the PMSC, also outlines that all employees and volunteers must report suspected child abuse, inappropriate behaviour or incidents that they become aware of, whether the behaviour or incidents were personally witnessed or not. This policy is extended also to virtual/internet communications with an individual player. All communications by a coach shall be sent to the player and another coach/manager to ensure appropriate communications. This includes, but is not limited to email, zoom calls, snapchat and texting. At the end of practices/training sessions and games, players should not be left alone to await their ride by the coach. Two adults must be present until all players are picked up by parents/guardians.

Implementation

The Club educates coaches, players and parents/guardians about this policy through staff and volunteer meetings, player/parent meetings and publishing it on the Club website.

Coaches and administrators are directed to follow this policy in the Coach and Administrator Handbooks provided each season to them. This policy is also referenced in the Club's Emergency Action Plan (EAP) Policy that each team is required to establish. Coaches and Team Officials are required to sign a Coach and Manager Declaration that lists relevant Club policies, acknowledging that they have read and understand the policies and agree to abide by them.



Guiding Policy in full: [CanadaSoccer_RuleOfTwo_EN.pdf](#)