

Policy: Rule of Two

Policy Statement

The St. Albert Soccer Association (SASA) is committed to the safety of our players, coaches, volunteers, and members:

Principles and Practices

What is the Rule of Two?

The Rule of Two requires that 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 person of authority, except for medical emergencies.

Should there be a circumstance where a second screened and NCCP trained or certified coach is not available, a screened volunteer, parent, or adult can be recruited.

Guidelines

SASA follows Canada Soccer guidelines below:

- A “Person in Authority” is defined as an NCCP-trained or certified coach, a screened volunteer, or other adult. The organization is meeting the Gold Standard for the Rule of Two if the Person in Authority is always an NCCP-trained or certified coach.

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Travel

The following guidelines are strongly recommended during travel with athletes.

- A Person in Authority may not be alone in a car with an athlete unless the Person in Authority is the athlete's parent or guardian.
- 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. Room or bed checks during overnight stays must be done by two Persons in Authority.

Locker Room / Changing Area / Meeting Room Guidelines

The following guidelines are strongly recommended for locker rooms, changing areas, and meeting rooms:

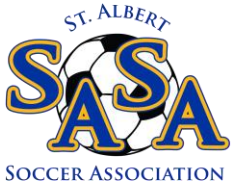
- Interactions between a Person in Authority and an individual athlete should not occur in any room where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy such as the locker room, meeting room, washroom, or changing area. A second Person in Authority must be present for all necessary interactions in any such room.
- If Persons in Authority are not present in the locker room or changing area, or if they are not permitted to be present, they should still be available outside the locker room or changing area and be able to enter the room or area if required.

Training / Competition Environment

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

- 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. If the athlete is the first athlete to arrive, the athlete's parent should remain until another athlete or Person in Authority arrives. Similarly, 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 or guardian of another athlete) to stay until all the athletes have been picked up. If an adult is not available, then another athlete should be present to avoid the Person in Authority being alone with a single athlete.

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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:

- 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.
- 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.

Questions and Complains

If you have questions or concerns about the Rule of Two, please contact the Executive Director of SASA at exdir@stalbertsoccer.com

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