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TMSC Rule of Two Policy

Policy #

Approval Date:

Application: TMSC Directors, Coaches, Officials, Volunteers, Players

Purpose

The purpose of the Tillsonburg Minor Soccer Club (TMSC) Rule of Two Policy is to commit all TMSC Directors, Coaches, Officials, Volunteers and Players to always prioritizing the health and safety of players and to ensure the alignment of TMSC's procedures with the Responsible Coaching Movement as identified and updated from time to time by Canada Soccer. This will be accomplished by ensuring that wherever possible TMSC Directors, Coaches and Officials avoid being alone with a single underage athlete, and by training Coaches in the principles of Responsible Coaching.

Background

The Responsible Coaching Movement (RCM) is a call to action to keep sport healthy and safe by addressing the important role of coaches of in dealing with issues relating to the health and safety of athletes, both on and off the field of play.

A multi-phase system-wide movement, coordinated by the Coaching Association of Canada and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, the RCM has the potential to affect all sport organizations, coaches, and the participants in their care. The RCM is a call to action for organizations to implement realistic change based on their individual state of readiness.

The Rule of Two serves to protect minor athletes in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring that more than one adult is present. Vulnerable situations can include closed doors meetings, travel, and training environments. Tillsonburg FC is committed to create and implement policies and procedures that limit the instances where these situations are possible.

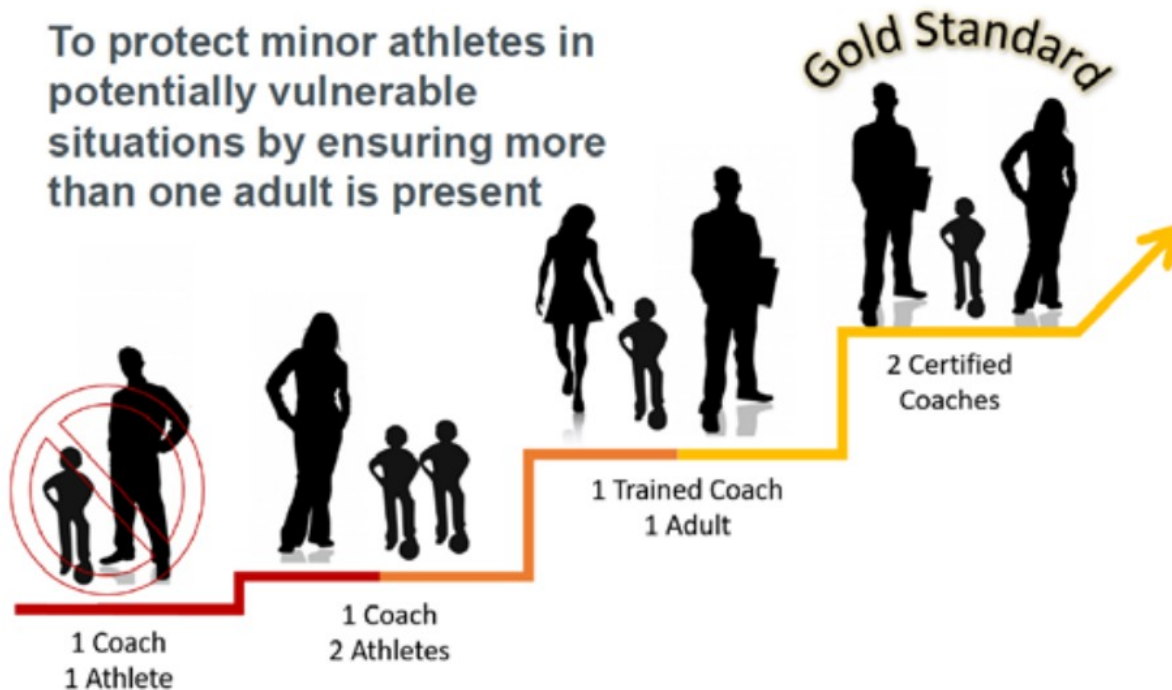
Ultimately, the Rule of Two states that there will always be two screened and NCCP trained or certified coaches with an athlete, especially a minor athlete, when in a potentially vulnerable situation. This means that any one-on-one interaction between a coach and an athlete must take place within earshot and view of the second coach, except for 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).



The following diagram depicts the “staircase approach” to the Rule of Two. While the Gold Standard is the preferred environment, it is not expected that it will always be reached. The alternatives presented, although increasing risk, are acceptable and are considered to be in alignment with the Rule of Two. The one-on-one interaction between a coach and an athlete without another individual present, as depicted at the lowest stair in the diagram, is to be avoided in all circumstances.



Purpose of Rule of Two



1. Policy

- 1.1. TMSC shall require all Directors, Coaches, Officials, and Volunteers to be screened in accordance with TMSC’s Screening Policy.
- 1.2. TMSC shall require all Coaches and team personnel to complete the Respect in Sport Activity Leader Training.
- 1.3. TMSC shall require all Directors, Coaches and team personnel to complete the Making Ethical Decisions training.