



Vancouver United FC's Commitment to Player Safety

Rule of Two

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. VanU is committed to policies and procedures that limit the instances where these situations are possible and will help its coaches and volunteers plan for situations where they need to ensure two adults are present at team functions.

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, 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).

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 be reached at all times. The alternatives presented, although increasing risk, are acceptable and would be 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.

VanU is committed towards working towards the CSA's Gold Standard as it applies to the Rule of Two.

Please see the following pages for a full description of the recently updated and improved Rule of Two Guidelines provided by Canada Soccer.