

Fort Saskatchewan Minor Football Association – Rules, Policies, and Procedures

Policy Category	
Policy Name	Rule of Two Policy
Sources	
Origination Date	March 2025
Revision Date	

# Rule of Two Policy

## 1. Policy Statement

- 1.1. Fort Saskatchewan Minor Football Association's highest priority is to provide a safe, professional, inclusive and respectful environment for young athletes to learn, develop, play and enjoy the game of football
- 1.2. This policy has been established to advocate for a safe environment through healthy interactions for all individuals while reducing the risk of harm and maltreatment.
- 1.3. Benefits of the Rule of Two:
  - 1.3.1. Provides protection, safety and security for individuals
  - 1.3.2. Reduces the risk of an incident of abuse
  - 1.3.3. Prevents false accusations
  - 1.3.4. Offers additional assistance during an accident or an emergency
- 1.4. This policy is to ensure that all communication and interactions that are open, observable and justifiable.

#### 2. Definitions

- 2.1. "FSMFA" shall refer to Fort Saskatchewan Minor Football Association.
- 2.2. "Association" shall refer to FSMFA.
- 2.3. "Board" shall refer to the elect officials of the Association as defined by the Association Bylaws.
- 2.4. "CDMFA" shall refer to Capital District Minor Football Association.
- 2.5. "Administrators" for the Association encompasses team managers, trainers, coaches and whomever else may contribute to Association football programming.
- 2.6. "Individual" shall refer to a person including members, parents/guardians of players, coaches, players, trainers, managers, board members, volunteers, as well as spectators and persons engaged in activities, events/competitions and programs with and/or hosted by Association or CDMFA.
- 2.7. "Family" shall refer to the legal guardians of one or more players as well as the player(s) participating in the football program of the Association.
- 2.8. "RPP" shall mean the rules, policies, and procedures as defined by the document entitled "RPPs".





2.9. "Bylaws" shall mean the Bylaws of the Association.

## 3. Applicability

- 3.1. This policy is applicable to all Administrators of football programming
  - 3.1.1. Including but not limited to:
    - 3.1.1.1. Coaches
    - 3.1.1.2. Board Members
    - 3.1.1.3. Trainers
    - 3.1.1.4. Managers
    - 3.1.1.5. Volunteers
    - 3.1.1.6. Mentors
- 3.2. During communication and interactions with individuals the rule of two should be applied.
  - 3.2.1. Including but not limited to:
    - 3.2.1.1. Digital Communication
      - 3.2.1.1.1. Texting, Emailing, Video Conferencing, Social Media
    - 3.2.1.2. Meetings
      - 3.2.1.2.1. Coach and Player
      - 3.2.1.2.2. Coach and Assistant Coach
      - 3.2.1.2.3. Mentor and Mentee
      - 3.2.1.2.4. Coach and Trainer
      - 3.2.1.2.5. Coach and Manager
      - 3.2.1.2.6. Board Member and Board Member
      - 3.2.1.2.7. Coach and Board Member

## 4. Responsibilities

- 4.1. Individuals shall ensure that an environment open, observable and justifiable prior to the interaction:
  - 4.1.1. Open
    - 4.1.1.1. Interactions should be in an open and public environment.
    - 4.1.1.2. Interactions should not be closed or concealed from others
    - 4.1.1.3. Interactions should not be behind closed doors or in secluded locations.
    - 4.1.1.4. Interactions should be shared to others
  - 4.1.2. Observable
    - 4.1.2.1. Individuals in a position of lesser power have an accessible exit
    - 4.1.2.2. Interactions should have a witness to be seen and heard.
  - 4.1.3. Justifiable
    - 4.1.3.1. Interactions should be in a reasonable location that would be normal for the Individuals meeting like the football field.
    - 4.1.3.2. Interactions should not be outside a sports environment like a coffee shop.
- 4.2. Digital Environments
  - 4.2.1. Every Virtual Environment shall have 2 coaches be present or 1 coach and 1 adult (guardian, or administrator) with participants.



- 4.2.2. Clear communication that sessions are focused on training, coaching or the Association.
- 4.2.3. Individuals shall consent to virtual sessions before each session.
- 4.2.4. Parents/Guardians shall consent to virtual sessions before each session as well as the process of the session.
- 4.2.5. Cyber security shall be in place for any digital communications such as password-protected videoconferencing invitations.
- 4.2.6. Individuals shall be in a professional environment, as an example, not in a bedroom.
- 4.2.7. Best Practices is to use a virtual background during virtual sessions.
- 4.2.8. Best Practices is to record the sessions and get prior consent from Individuals and parents/guardians to record the sessions.
- 4.2.9. Facilitators of the sessions should encourage the Individuals to update their parents/guardians about virtual sessions details.
- 4.3. Individuals are responsible for ensuring that a third person is present.
  - 4.3.1. Examples
    - 4.3.1.1. Coaches should have another coach or verified adult (parent or administrator) present during interactions with a player or players.
    - 4.3.1.2. Virtual Sessions shall have 2 coaches or a coach and verified adult (parent or administrator) on the session during interactions with a player or players.
- 4.4. One-on-One interactions should not occur.
- 4.5. One-on-One digital communication should be eliminated.
  - 4.5.1. Individuals shall not use digital communication to communicate with players one-on-one.
- 4.6. Individuals should consider the gender of all participants when selecting Individuals in situations requiring the rule of two.
- 4.7. All digital communication should be sent to a group (3 or more individuals).

### 5. Reporting

- 5.1. Individuals should archive all digital communication for tracking.
- 5.2. Individuals should create a record of any interactions that requires the rule of two.
- 5.3. Individuals should record and report any interactions that should require the rule of two.
- 5.4. Any reporting shall be submitted to the Resolution Committee by Association website.
- 6. Governance
  - 6.1. The board has oversight over this Policy.
  - 6.2. This policy shall be reviewed and approved at least every 2 years or as required.