



Hollandia Soccer Club

Policy Statement | September 2019 |

Rule of Two Policy

Hollandia is committed to fostering a physically and emotionally safe place for our athletes to engage in sport. 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 door meetings, travel, and training environments.

Purpose

The reason for this policy is to ensure the protection and safety of our athletes. This policy acts together with our team personnel training requirements, our Athlete Protection Policy, and the Inclusion and Anti-Harassment Policy to provide a variety of mechanism to provide a safe place for athletes to play.

The Rule of Two states that there will always be two screened, Respect in Sport and NCP trained or certified coaches with an athlete when in a potentially vulnerable situation. One-on-one interactions between an adult and an athlete, without another adult present must be avoided in all circumstances except medical emergencies.

Hollandia recognizes that it is not always possible to have two certified coaches in all situations. Hollandia strives to meet this standard, however when it is not possible, the following scenarios can be considered viable alternatives, with the most preferred options at the top:

- 2 certified coaches (minimum one of the same identified gender as the player)
- 1 trained coach, 1 screened adult
- 1 trained coach, minimum 2 athletes

Teams are responsible to ensure that they have a screened volunteer available to meet the rule of two. If there are not two NCCP certified coaches meeting the gender requirements on the team, or in the case that an NCCP certified coach is absent, an adequate number of certified managers and bench parents must make themselves available. Hollandia encourages female members specifically to gain NCCP certification in order to meet the highest standard of this policy. If you are interested in pursuing this path, we will be happy to support you. Please reach out to our Director of Coaching and Player Development at docpd@hollandiasoccer.com.

Procedures

In the procedures below, a Person of Authority is defined as an NCCP-trained or certified coach or a screened volunteer.

1. Travel
 - a. A Person in Authority may not be alone in a vehicle with an athlete unless the Person in Authority is the athlete's parent or guardian, or has explicit permission from the athlete's parent or guardian
 - b. 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
 - c. Room or bed checks during overnights stays must be done by two Persons in Authority

2. Training/Competition Environments (including before, during, and after practices and games)
 - a. A Person in Authority should never be alone with an athlete in a training/competition environment. If the athlete is the first to arrive the athlete's parent should remain until another athlete of Person of Authority arrives. Similarly, after a practice the Person in Authority should ensure another Person in Authority remains until all the athletes have been picked up.
 - b. Persons in Authority giving instructions, demonstrating skills, or facilitating drills or lessons to an individual athlete should always be doing so within earshot and eyesight of another Person in Authority.
3. Gender Identity
 - a. A Person of Authority who is interacting with athletes should be of the same gender identity as the athletes
 - b. For teams consisting of athletes of just one gender identity, a Person of Authority of the same gender identity should participate in or attend every interaction.
 - c. For teams consisting of athletes of more than one gender identity, a Person of Authority of each gender identity should participate in or attend every interaction.

Failure to comply with this policy can result in suspension, cancellation of training times, forfeiture of games, etc. Any member with a concern about implementation of this policy should reach out to the community and player liaison at liaison@hollandiasoccer.com.