Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA)
Safe Sport - Abuse Prevention
Rule of Two

The ‘Rule of two’ means that a Person In Authority (PIA) is never alone or out of sight with an athlete. Any one-on-one interaction between a PIA and an individual athlete must take place within earshot and view of a second PIA. If possible one of the PIAs should be the same gender as the athlete. If a PIA is not available, another screened volunteer, parent or adult can be recruited. An exception is made for medical emergencies.

Ensure an open and observable environment for all interactions between adults and athletes. This could include leaving the door open when having a meeting, moving away from others in public space but staying within eyesight. Avoid private one-on-one situations unless they are open and observable by another adult or athlete.

See Rule of Two – Gold Standard chart below, for suitable options to achieve the Rule of Two, when two certified, screened PIA’s (the Gold Standard) are not feasible.

Rule of Two - Gold Standard

Purpose of Rule of Two
To protect minor athletes and coaches in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring more than one adult is present

1 Coach
1 Athlete

1 Coach
2 Athletes

1 Trained Coach
1 Screened Adult

2 Trained and Screened Coaches

2 Certified and Screened Coaches

*Exceptions for Emergency Situations

coach.ca | Coaching Association of Canada
Association canadienne des entraîneurs