

# Force Soccer Academy

Developing confident, inspired, and competitive athletes.

[forcesoccer.ca](http://forcesoccer.ca)



## Rule of Two Policy

*Updated November 2023*

### Introduction:

Burlington Force Soccer Academy (the Academy) adheres to the highest standards of safety and ethics in its commitment to safeguarding our players. Consistent with Canada Soccer's Guide to Safety, the Academy has instituted the Rule of Two Policy. This policy ensures that a pair of Persons of Authority (e.g., Club Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers, or Volunteers) is present in situations where a player may be vulnerable.

### The Rule of Two:

The Rule of Two is an essential component of the Academy's approach to protecting the well-being of our athletes. It is consistent with the recommendations of the Coaching Association of Canada and Canada Soccer's guidelines, stipulating that at least two screened individuals—who are trained or certified through the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP)—should be present with an athlete during vulnerable situations.

### Implementation:

When two NCCP-trained or certified coaches are unavailable, the Academy Team will ensure that a Person of Authority is always accompanied by another screened adult such as a coach (staff or volunteer), team official, staff member, or the player's parent/guardian. Under no circumstances should one-on-one interactions occur between a coach and an athlete without the presence of another screened individual, except in cases of medical emergencies.

### Specific Standards:

#### Travel:

- No Person of Authority may be alone in a car with an athlete unless they are the athlete's parent or guardian.

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- Persons of Authority cannot share a room or be alone in a hotel room with an athlete unless they are the athlete's parent or guardian.
- Room or bed checks during overnight stays must be conducted by two Persons of Authority.

## Locker Room / Changing Area / Meeting Room:

- No interactions should occur between a Person of Authority and an athlete in rooms with an expectation of privacy, unless a second Person of Authority is present.
- Persons of Authority should be available outside these private spaces and able to enter if necessary.

## Training / Competition Environment:

- A Person of Authority should not be alone with an athlete before or after a game or practice unless they are the athlete's parent or guardian.
- Arrangements must be made to ensure that no athlete is alone with a Person of Authority at any time during academy-related activities.
- Instructions, skill demonstrations, or drills with an individual athlete must be within sight and hearing of another Person of Authority.

## Gender Identity:

- For single-gender identity teams, a Person of Authority of that same gender identity should be present at all interactions.
- For mixed-gender identity teams (e.g., co-ed teams), Persons of Authority of each gender identity present should be available to participate in or attend every interaction.

By being part of Burlington Force Soccer Academy, I agree to adhere to this Rule of Two Policy.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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