
Markham Soccer Club



Responsible Coaching and Rule of Two Policy

Effective Date: July 7, 2025

Responsible Coaching Movement

As part of our commitment to the NCCP's Responsible Coaching Movement the Markham Soccer Club has implemented the following policies & procedures in order to ensure that both our athletes and coaches are protected.

Rule of Two Policy

- Two screened & NCCP trained coaches should always be present with an athlete, in particular a minor, when in a potentially vulnerable situation.
- A coach should never be alone out of eyesight with a child.
- All one-on-one interactions between a coach and an athlete should take place within earshot and within view of a second coach except for in medical emergencies.
- One of the coaches shall be the same gender as the athlete.
- In circumstances where a second screened & certified coach is not readily available, a screened volunteer, parent, or adult can be recruited.
- Team Officials should not transport athletes without another adult or athlete present.
- One-on-one digital communication (example texting/emailing) should be eliminated. It is not recommended to use Snapchat or other applications that have disappearing features. That is not public communication, it is private and cannot be tracked; it is not open, nor observable, nor justifiable.

Background Screening

- All competitive team officials must complete an application form as well as provide three reference checks.
- Once the application has been reviewed, applicants must then provide a Vulnerable Sector Screening to the MSC.
- Upon approval Vulnerable Sector Screenings must be completed every 3 years thereafter.

Ethics Training

- All competitive coaches are required to complete ethics training to prepare them to effectively handle situations that may arise concerning individuals, teams, and our organization. Successful completion of the following, are required:
 - Making Ethical Decisions (MED) Workshop & Online Evaluation
 - Respect in Sport
 - Making Headway in Sport

- NCCP Emergency Action Plan (EAP)
- NCCP Rule of Two