

Resources for Abuse Prevention

February 2023

Important contact numbers:

Police Services

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency Chester RCMP Detachment: 902-275-3583

Family and Children's Services

Lunenburg District Office, Child Welfare; 902-543-4554

After hours, 1-866-922-2434

Social workers in child welfare agencies assess reports of alleged child abuse and neglect to determine an appropriate response.

Seniors

If the allegation is not of a criminal nature, the Nova Scotia Senior Abuse Information and Referral Line can provide information about senior abuse or to talk about a situation of abuse. This is not a crisis line. The Department of Seniors cannot investigate, but it can tell you about resources in your community. 1-877-833-3377 toll-free in Nova Scotia.

Village Office

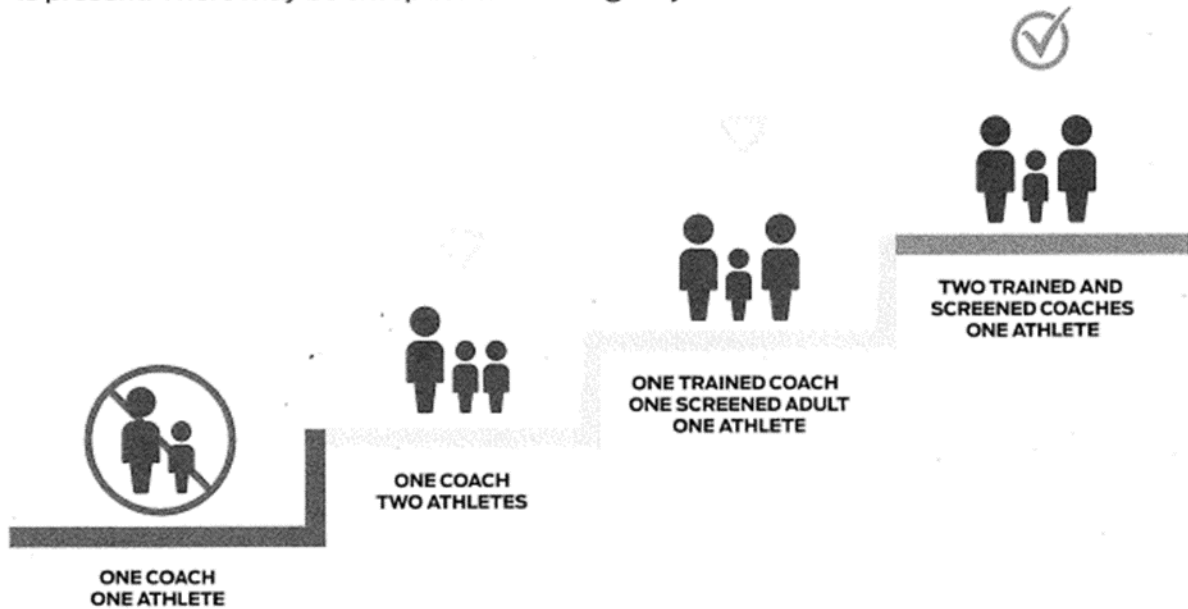
Reception: 902-275-4482

Clerk/Treasurer: 902-275-4994

Staff or Volunteers – If the allegation is that a staff member or volunteer is the person subject to abuse, the Clerk/Treasurer will consult with the Chair of the Commission, the Village lawyer, and other experts as required to develop an investigation process appropriate to the allegation.

RULE OF TWO

The goal of the **Rule of Two** is to ensure all interactions and communications are open, observable and justifiable. Its purpose is to protect participants (especially minors) and coaches in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring more than one adult is present. There may be exceptions for emergency situations.



GOOD RULE OF TWO IMPLEMENTATION PRACTICES

- The coach is never alone and out of sight with a participant without another screened coach or screened adult (parent or volunteer) present.
- Allow training environment to be open to observation.
- Ensure a participant rides in a coach's vehicle with another adult present.
- Consider the gender of the participant(s) when selecting the screened coaches and volunteers who are present.
- Eliminate one-to-one electronic messaging. Ensure that all communications are sent to the group and/or include parents.

Learn more: coach.ca/responsiblecoaching



Additional resource/research information:

Nova Scotia Community Services

<https://novascotia.ca/coms/families/index.html>

Nova Scotia Children and Family Services Act

<https://nslegislature.ca/sites/default/files/legc/statutes/children%20and%20family%20services.pdf>

<https://novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/cfsregs.htm>

Nova Scotia Child Abuse Registry

<https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-child-abuse-register-search>

Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission

<https://humanrights.novascotia.ca/>

Nova Scotia Human Rights Act

<https://nslegislature.ca/sites/default/files/legc/statutes/human%20rights.pdf>

Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act

<https://nslegislature.ca/sites/default/files/legc/statutes/municipal%20government.pdf>

Training Resources:

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety – free online video on violence in the workplace prevention

https://www.ccohs.ca/products/courses/violence_awareness/