

Why Do Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Junior Coaches have to fill out application forms?

Coaches give athletes the benefit of their knowledge, enthusiasm and passion in sport. They dedicate their time to helping youth build confidence, self-esteem, and fostering positive body image through participation in sport.

When athletes and athletes' parents entrust a coach as a leader they assume they have taken steps to become a responsible coach.

Ringette Canada has taken a pledge to follow the Responsible Coaching Movement which helps ensure athletes and coaches benefit fully from sport participation in a safe, healthy, and fun environment. Bow View is looking at the Responsible Coaching Movement and identifying our existing policies and procedures that align with the movement and those that we may consider incorporating.

There are 3 steps to the responsible coaching movement

1. FOLLOW THE RULE OF TWO
- 2: COMPLETE YOUR BACKGROUND SCREENING
- 3: ENROL IN ETHICS TRAINING

STEP 1. FOLLOW THE RULE OF TWO- This means that a coach is never alone or out of sight with your child. Two NCCP trained or certified coaches should always be present with a minor athlete, when in a locker room or meeting room. All one-on-one interactions between a coach and an athlete must take place within earshot and in view of a second coach except for medical emergencies.

One of the coaches must also be of the same gender as the athlete. Should there be a circumstance where a second screened and NCCP trained or certified coach is not available, a screened volunteer, parent, or adult can be recruited.

Although, not formally in our Policy and Procedures, teams are welcome to follow this rule if they are looking to have some guidelines. This does not change or effect our policy about having no members of the opposite sex in the dressing room until 10-15 minutes before a practice or game for U12 and up.

STEP 2: COMPLETE BACKGROUND SCREENING

The background screening ensures that associations are taking reasonable steps to ensure individuals selected to coach are trustworthy. Screening tools already included in Bow View's Policies and Procedures include Police Checks, Application Forms indicating that Coaches have read and understood the Code

of Conduct, coaches meetings at the beginning of the season and contact information for one reference. The only new part added to BVRA's background screening for the 2017-2018 season are screening disclosure questions incorporated into the Application Form.

STEP 3: ENROL IN ETHICS TRAINING

Ethics training includes the *Make Ethical Decisions (MED)* module within the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP), as well as training such as *Respect in Sport (RIS)*.

By successfully completing the MED training, coaches will be equipped to handle ethical situations with confidence and surety. MED training helps coaches identify the legal, ethical, and moral implications of difficult situations.

RIS training empowers coaches and parents to recognize and prevent bullying, abuse, harassment and discrimination.

Ringette Alberta has already established this training for our coaches and Bow View ensures our team staff have the appropriate level of training for the division they are involved with.

If you would like to read more about the Responsible Coaching Movement please see their website at coach.ca.