

## YOUTH TRAVEL POLICY

### Overview

A significant portion of the Powered by Pacific FC Programs involves/might involve travel for the youth teams to games and tournaments.

The Travel Policy is to establish standards of behavior and manage expectations of the organization as well as coaches, team personnel, players, and parents.

This policy defines how minor players will be supervised between and during travel to and from practice and competitions. Adherence to the travel policy helps to reduce situations of misconduct.

### General Considerations

- Coaches, team officials, and athletes must abide by the Powered by Pacific FC Program Code of Conduct at all times;
- Coaches, team officials, athletes, and parents should have a clear understanding of the Travel Policy in advance of all team travel;
- All coaches and team officials must be registered in our registration system (Teamsnap) and properly screened (Criminal Record Check) in advance of traveling with a team.
- The “Rule of Two” must always be adhered to any situation involving players/minors, i.e, during travel, meaning that no coach or team officials should ever be alone with an athlete unless the coach or team officials is a family member or guardian of the player.

\*Rule of Two: The Rule of Two serves to protect minor athletes in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring that more than one adult is present. Vulnerable situations can include closed doors meetings, travel, and practice environments.

### Definitions Regarding Travel

Travel to training, practice and local games we consider “local travel”, while “team travel” involves a club coordinated trip.

1. LOCAL TRAVEL: this occurs when the Powered by Pacific FC Program does not sponsor or arrange for travel.
  - Players and/or their parents/guardians are responsible for making all arrangements for local travel. The team and its coaches, managers or administrators should avoid responsibility for arranging or coordinating local travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains the

proper safety and legal requirements, including, but not limited to, a valid driver's license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable provincial/federal laws.

- The associated, coaches, and/or volunteers of the Powered by Pacific FC programs, who are not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor player and should only drive with at least two players or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor player's parent.
  - Employees, coaches, and volunteers who are also a player's parent or guardian may provide shared transportation for any player(s).
  - It is recognized that in some limited instances it will be unavoidable for an employee, coach or volunteer of Powered by Pacific FC Programs to drive alone with an unrelated minor player. However, efforts should be made to minimize these occurrences.
2. TEAM TRAVEL: this occurs when the Powered by Pacific FC Program coordinates or arranges for travel when teams compete regionally, nationally or internationally. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the players.
- The Powered by Pacific FC Program will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel. Travel notice will also include designated team hotels for overnight stays (if needed), as well as a contact person within the Powered by Pacific FC Program. This individual will be the point of contact to confirm travel and to help with details.
    - In the event athletes need hotel accommodation for any BC SPL activity, the cost is not included in the program fees and will be under families' responsibility. The coaching staff and manager travel expenses (hotel + transportation costs are the club's responsibility).
  - The Powered by Pacific FC Program will share specific travel itineraries when they become available. These will include a more detailed schedule as well as contact information for team chaperones. The Powered by Pacific FC Program strives to have a 1 adult-5 players ratio. The program does rely on parent volunteers to chaperone to achieve this.
  - Regardless of gender, a coach/volunteer/staff member shall not share a hotel room with a minor player (unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player).
  - No associate, coach, or volunteer will take part in team travel without the proper requirements in place: valid drivers' licenses, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with all provincial/federal laws.
  - All chaperones must show compliance with the Powered by Pacific FC Program Youth Travel Policy and all team drivers shall have appropriate Department of Motor Vehicle records.
  - Players should share rooms with other players of the same gender, with the appropriate number of players assigned per room depending on accommodations.
  - The head coach will establish a curfew for all players to be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will be made by coaches and designated chaperones.
  - Individual meetings between a player and coach may not occur in individual hotel rooms and must be held in public settings with additional adults present.
  - Family members who wish to stay in the team hotel are permitted and encouraged to do so.



- If any special arrangements are necessary for your child, please contact the manager of Youth Operations who can either make or assist with making those arrangements.
- Meetings do not occur in hotel rooms, but the team may reserve a separate space for adults and athletes to socialize.
- If disciplinary action against a player is required while the player is traveling without his/her parents, except where immediate action is necessary, parents will be notified before any action is taken.
- No coach/chaperone/staff member/team manager shall at any time be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving travel, parents have the right to transport their minor player and have the minor player stay in their hotel room.
- Prior to any travel, coaches and/or team managers will make sure players and parents are aware of all expectations and rules. Coaches will also support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of the players for adherence to curfew restrictions and other travel rules.

### **Prohibited Conduct and Reporting**

The Powered by Pacific FC Program prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing. Participants, employees or volunteers in the Powered by Pacific FC Program may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of the Travel Youth Policy or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse that violates the Powered by Pacific FC Program policies.

Reports of any actual or suspected violations, you may email the Manager of Youth Operations at [wave@pacificfc.ca](mailto:wave@pacificfc.ca).



3024 Glen Lake Rd, Victoria, BC V9B 4B4  
wave@pacificfc.ca

