

What Is Athlete Grooming?

What can athlete grooming look like?

- Favouring one athlete over another with special attention, activities, or gifts
- Isolating an athlete from teammates and others
- Being seen as especially valuable to the club
- Establishing a dependent relationship with the victim's parents
- Communicating one-on-one with the athlete or arranging to meet outside of group training
- Increasing physical touch that seems unimportant at first

How do we prevent athlete grooming?

- Implement policies that clearly state what behaviour is ok and not ok
- Follow the Rule of 2 – no person in authority should be alone in private with an athlete
- Screen persons in authority
- Train administrators, athletes and their parents to recognize grooming
- Report suspicions of grooming – you don't need to be sure

Learn more and how to get help at

<https://nordiqcanada.ca/safesport/>