

## WAHA Locker Room Policy

According to USA Hockey Safe Sport:

“It is the policy of USA Hockey that all Affiliates, Districts, leagues, and local hockey programs have at least one responsible adult present and directly monitoring the locker room during all team events to assure that only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room and to supervise the conduct in the locker room. Any individual meetings with a minor participant and a coach in a locker room shall require a responsible adult be with the coach. The responsible adult that monitors and supervises the locker room shall have been screened.

Further, responsible adults must personally monitor the locker room environment at all times while participants are present and also make sure the locker room is appropriately secured during times when minor participants are on the ice.

It shall be permissible for a local organization or team to prohibit parents from a locker room. However, in doing so, the team shall ensure that properly screened individuals monitor and supervise the locker room as required by above.

With younger players, it is generally appropriate to allow parents to assist the player with getting equipment on and off before and after games or practices and they should be allowed to do so.

There will be no use of a mobile device’s recording capabilities in the locker rooms of any USA Hockey sanctioned event, provided that it may be acceptable to take photographs or recordings in a locker room in such unique circumstances as a victory celebration, team party, etc., where all persons present in the locker room are either appropriately dressed and have been advised that photographs or recording are being taken.”

In addition, the following WAHA rules apply:

WAHA has limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (generally thirty to sixty [30-60] minutes before and following practices and games). This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. While constant monitoring inside of locker rooms and changing areas might be the most effective way to prevent problems, we understand that this is not always practical and may make some players uncomfortable and may even place our staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion.

1. WAHA’s policy is to place at least two (2) screened locker room monitors (either a screened coach or screened parent) inside the locker room or one (1) screened monitor posted directly

outside the locker room that periodically checks in on the locker room and one (1) screened coach inside the locker room. The responsible, screened adults will check the condition of the locker room before the players enter and after they exit the locker room. Any damage or unacceptable conditions will immediately be reported to the rink staff or team manager.

2. Parents are not permitted to be in the locker room at any time with the exception of helping young players (Peewee and below) with equipment needs before and after practices and games or the parent is a screened and approved adult providing locker room supervision. If the parent is helping a player with equipment, two (2) locker room monitors shall be in the locker room while the parent is assisting the player. If a player needs assistance with equipment, if the player may be injured, or if a player's disability warrants assistance, then we ask that the parent let the coach know beforehand that the player needs assistance.

We discourage siblings from entering the locker room with the parent of a player, especially if of the opposite sex, unless it is truly necessary.

3. If there is a parent serving as a screened adult supervising the locker room, the coach is permitted to ask the parent(s) to leave for a short time before the game and for a short time after the game so that the coach may address the players.

4. As players get older, the coach may in his discretion prohibit parents from a locker room.

5. Parents are to follow the Parent Code of Conduct at all times.

6. Cell phones are not permitted to be used in any locker room for any reason unless approved by the coach for unique circumstances as a victory celebration, team party, etc. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room. Coaches may use electronic equipment to play music or review video footage of game/practice plays. No other use of electronic devices in the locker room is permitted.

The use of electronic devices in the approved manner listed above is a privilege and not a right. Any allegations of misuse must be reported to the WAHA BOD. Confirmed issues will result in the team losing their privileges and all electronics banned from the locker room for the remainder of the season. Any allegation involving the recording or photography of players dressing or undressing will be immediately reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency with the jurisdiction of the locker room where the alleged incident occurred.

7. In the event of a co-ed team, it is important that the privacy rights of all of our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. There will be separate locker rooms for

dressing and then convene in a single dressing room prior to the game or team meeting. No coaching is to be done until all the players are together in full gear.

8. Shower rooms and restroom inside or adjoining locker rooms are for player use only. Coaches, team managers, and parents will not enter these rooms but will monitor them from the outside. Adults should only enter in the event of an emergency, and in those cases, two (2) adults whenever possible.

9. WAHA prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey Safe Sport Handbook.

Participants, players, coaches, team managers and volunteers in the WAHA organization may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of the Locker Room policy or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse that violates the USA Hockey Safe Sport Policies.

Reports of any actual or suspected violations must be made to the WAHA Safe Sport Coordinator, Glen Moore at 740-338-7084 or [twomoore673@comcast.net](mailto:twomoore673@comcast.net). You may also email USA Hockey at [safesport@usahockey.org](mailto:safesport@usahockey.org) or may call 1-800-888-4656.