

# PAHA Locker Room Policy

In addition to the development of our hockey players and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is central to PAHA's goals. PAHA adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse, and other types of misconduct, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing. To help prevent abuse or misconduct from occurring in our locker rooms, PAHA has adopted MAHA's Policy & Guidelines. This policy is designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms. Any violation of the below detailed policy are subject to consequences per MAHA:

[https://cdn2.sportngin.com/attachments/document/0120/3332/MAHA\\_Policy\\_Locker\\_Room\\_Monitors.pdf#\\_ga=2.173277414.496327984.1629648939-56286986.1629647456](https://cdn2.sportngin.com/attachments/document/0120/3332/MAHA_Policy_Locker_Room_Monitors.pdf#_ga=2.173277414.496327984.1629648939-56286986.1629647456)

At Petoskey Ice Arena, there are four locker rooms available for PAHA's use. The locker rooms have restrooms and in some cases, they have shared restrooms and showers. Teams in our program may also travel to play games at other arenas, and those locker rooms, restrooms and shower facilities will vary from location to location. PAHA managers and/or coaches will attempt to provide information on the locker room facilities in advance for games away from our home rink. For away games, parents should plan to have extra time and some flexibility in making arrangements for their child to dress, undress, and shower if desired.

## ***Locker Room Monitoring***

PAHA has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (30 minutes before and following practices and games). This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. We conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas before players arrive, and if the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, team personnel (each of which has been screened) will be posted directly outside of the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use, and leave the doors open only when adequate privacy is still possible, so that only participants (coaches and players), and approved team personnel, with appropriate screening, are permitted in the locker room. Team personnel will also secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

## ***Parents in Locker Rooms***

**Parents of 6U & 8U players are allowed in the locker room without SafeSport and background check. Please limit to one parent per player in the locker room.** Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. **They shall leave the locker room as soon as their player is dressed. Parents of 10U and older are not allowed in the locker rooms at any time unless deemed necessary by the coach or Board Member when no other players other than their own are present.** If a player needs assistance with his or her uniform or gear, if the player is or may be injured, or a player's disability warrants assistance, please notify the coach and/or Board of Directors as soon as possible. Players may also meet

their parent outside the locker rooms on a bench to make gear adjustments and/or tie skates. So that players will learn how to get dressed independently, at a young age, we encourage parents to teach them early.

### ***Mixed Gender Teams***

Some of our teams include both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. **Where possible, PAHA will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game or practice.** Once the game or practice is finished, the players may come to one locker room for a team meeting and then the male and female players proceed to their separate locker rooms to undress and/or shower, if available. **If separate locker rooms are not available, the coach can ask for players to take turns in the locker room or have a SafeSport and background checked member of the opposite gender to be in the locker room ONLY during times the players are changing.** We understand that these arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress but believe that this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all our players. We also encourage all players to come to the rink with their undergarments on or use the locked restrooms to change in and out of them.

### ***Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices***

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras, and video cameras, are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room. Phones must be kept locked in hockey bags or left outside the locker room with a parent. Players are not allowed to use them at any time in the locker room.

### ***Prohibited Conduct and Reporting***

**PAHA prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Participants, employees, family members, or volunteers in PAHA may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these locker room policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. Reports of any actual or suspected violations should be reported to a PAHA board member for escalation. You may also email USA Hockey at [SafeSport@usahockey.org](mailto:SafeSport@usahockey.org) or call 1-800-888-4656.**