



ARMSTRONG COOPER YOUTH HOCKEY

ACYHA 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 ACYHA's goals. ACYHA adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program as a means 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, ACYHA has adopted the following locker room policy. This policy applies to all camps, practices, and games sponsored by ACHYA. This policy is designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to protect our players and coaches.

Locker Room Monitoring

ACYHA has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (e.g., generally 30 minutes before and following practices and games). This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. Locker rooms must be monitored by a locker room monitor at all times players are present. The monitor can either be a coach or adult volunteer. All monitors must be screened and pass a free background check from MN Hockey. At a minimum one locker room monitor and his/her child must be present when a non-relative player is present in the locker room. It is highly suggested that two monitors be in the locker room any time players are present. Locker room monitors must be assertive in enforcing prohibited conduct. Locker room monitors must be the same gender as the players being supervised. In a co-ed locker room only the same gender may monitor players as they dress in their hockey base layer. Either gender may be in the locker room as a monitor once all players are dressed in their base layer. Locker room monitors must arrive a minimum of 30 min before practices or games. This time may be increased at the coaches discretion. Monitors must stay after practice or games until all players are out of the locker room.

Parents in Locker Rooms

Except for players at the Mite or U8 level we discourage parents from entering locker rooms unless it is truly necessary. 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, then we ask that parents let the coach know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player. Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. We encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to get dressed so that players will learn as early as possible how to get dressed independently. In circumstances where parents are permitted in the locker room, coaches are permitted to ask that the parents leave for a short time before the game and for a short time after the game so that the coaches may address the players. As players get older, the coach may in his or her discretion prohibit parents from a locker room.

Mixed Gender Teams

Some of our teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all of our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. ACYHA has elected to use a minimum dress policy in our locker rooms. All players need to be dressed in a base layer of hockey apparel consisting of a shirt and shorts or pants prior to male and females sharing a locker room. This will mean that players either need to be dressed in their base layer prior to going into the locker room or players taking turns in the locker room to dress in their base layer. Once the base layer is on all players it is then acceptable to share a locker room while dressing in other hockey gear. 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 of our players.

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.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

ACYHA 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 or volunteers in ACYHA 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, you may contact ACYHA's SafeSport representative, any board member, or email USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org, or call 1-800-888-4656.

Non-compliance and penalties

This policy will be randomly monitored with locker room checks. If a violation of this policy is found, MN Hockey District 3 has the following penalties. The first offense will result in a one game suspension for the head coach. A second offense will result in a three game suspension for the head coach. A third offense will disqualify the team from post-season play.