

## Locker Room Monitoring

**All Locker room monitors are required to consent to background check every other year. Please refer to the Volunteer Info page on the BYHA Website to obtain the information for a Background Check.**

Adherence to a locker room policy enhances privacy and significantly reduces the likelihood of misconduct. Based on this principle, USA Hockey has developed recommendations for Locker Room Monitoring under the SafeSport Program.

BYHA has a 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 by pre-screened coaches, managers, and/or locker room monitors.

### **Acceptable Locker Room Monitoring Procedure could include:**

- **Having locker room monitors inside the locker room while participants are in the locker room**
- **Having a locker room monitor in the immediate vicinity outside the locker room (within arm's length of the door, so that the monitor can sufficiently hear inside the locker room) and regularly and frequently entering the locker room to monitor activity inside.**

### **Monitoring Locker Rooms with One Skater Present:**

- A locker room monitor **MAY NOT** be in the locker room with a single, individual minor participant without a second adult locker room monitor present.
- If a second monitor is not available, the locker room monitor may step outside the door and remain in the immediate vicinity (see above), or leave the door open (typically an inch or so while sitting outside of the door) if adequate privacy is still possible.
- **AT NO TIME MAY AN INDIVIDUAL MINOR PARTICIPANT BE LEFT ALONE, UNSUPERVISED, IN THE LOCKER ROOMS.** I cannot stress this enough. *You can neither leave the child alone nor be alone with the child.* This is for the protection of the child as

well as the Locker Room Monitor and the association.

### Co-Ed Team Use of Locker Rooms:

- USA Hockey's SafeSport Policy specifically states it is not acceptable for persons to be observing the opposite gender while they dress or undress and achieving that in a fair manner requires the cooperation of the entire team.
- With co-ed teams, it is also important that the person(s) monitoring the locker room is of the same gender as the players being monitored. When both male and female players are together in the locker room, where possible, there should be at least two adults in the locker room that have been properly screened in compliance with USA Hockey Screening Policy.
- USA Hockey offers a few options that equally uphold male and female players' privacy while reducing the chance of abuse or misconduct. Where possible, **the male and female players should undress/dress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single dressing room prior to the game or team meeting.** Once the game is finished, the players may come to one locker room and then the male and female players proceed to their separate dressing rooms to undress and shower (separately), if available. **If separate locker rooms are not available, then the genders may take turns using the locker room to change and then leave while the other gender changes.**

### Locker Rooms During On Ice Activity:

- *For the purpose of tryouts and evaluations,* it is recommended that the Locker Room Monitor remain within eyesight of the locker room while the participants are on the ice to monitor for unapproved access to the locker room.
- *During the season,* team personnel will secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

### Parents in Locker Rooms

- Except for players at the younger age groups, USA Hockey discourages 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. USA Hockey encourages 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.

#### **Social Media, Cell Phones, and Other Devices in the Locker Room:**

- Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras, and video cameras increase the risk for some forms of abuse or misconduct.
- 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.
- It may be acceptable to take photographs or recordings in a locker room in such unique circumstances as a victory celebration, team party, etc., when all persons in the locker room are appropriately dressed and have been advised that photographs or recordings are being taken.