



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 PREP HOCKEY CLUB'S goals. PREP 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. It is the policy of USA Hockey that all USA Hockey Member programs publish a locker room policy specific to the facilities they regularly use and that said policy includes locker room supervision by responsible, screened and SafeSport trained adults. To help prevent abuse or misconduct from occurring in our locker rooms, PREP has adopted the following locker room policy. This policy is designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms.

At our home rinks for games and practices there are several locker rooms available for our program's use. Locker rooms at Mt. Prospect Ice Arena and West Meadows Ice Arena have their own restroom and shower areas. Locker rooms at Nelson Sport Complex do not have restrooms or showers within. Teams in our program also regularly travel to play games at other arenas, and those locker rooms, restrooms and shower facilities will vary from location to location.

Locker Room Monitoring

PREP has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (e.g., generally 30-60 minutes before and 30 minutes 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 would likely make some players uncomfortable and may even place our staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion.

We conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas at the beginning of our locker room use period. If the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, either a coach or voluntary locker room monitors (each of which has been screened) will be posted outside of the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use so that only participants (coaches and players) and approved team personnel are permitted in the locker room.

Parents in Locker Rooms

Parents/family members are prohibited from entering locker rooms unless it is truly necessary. If a player needs assistance due to an injury or illness, then we ask that parents let the coach or team manager know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player.

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. Where possible, PREP will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game for a team meeting. 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 shower, if available. Our current home ice rinks have dedicated separate locker rooms for female players. Some away rinks we visit do not have separate dedicated female locker rooms or extra locker rooms available, but typically provide another acceptable private space for female players. In the rare occasion that neither of these accommodations is available, then the players will take turns using the locker room to change. 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 except in the case of an emergency. Should adhering to this policy become a frequent problem, PREP reserves the right to prohibit cell phones from being brought into the locker rooms at all.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

PREP 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 PREP 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. To report any actual or suspected violations, you may email USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or may call 1-800-888-4656.