

FOX VALLEY BLADES

LOCKER ROOM POLICY

Purpose: 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 FVYHA's goals. [FVYHA adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program](#) as a means to help protect our 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, FVYHA 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.

Locker Rooms: At Tri-County Ice Arena there are four locker rooms available for our use. Each of the locker rooms has its own restroom and shower area. There is also a dedicated women's locker. This policy is specific to the facilities (Tri-County Ice Arena) that our skaters regularly use; however, the same policies should be followed as closely as possible for away games.

Locker Room Monitoring: At Tri-County and most ice facilities at which our association plays, there are predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (generally 30-45 minutes before and following practices and games). This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. Only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room. Team personnel will also secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice. *Players are not allowed in locker rooms until and unless a locker room monitor is present and available.*

It is the policy of USA Hockey that all USA Hockey Member Programs have at least one responsible screened trained adult present 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. Coaches, Team Managers, and Age Directors are screened and SafeSport trained and are responsible for appropriate locker room monitoring.

Acceptable locker room monitoring includes having locker room monitors in the locker room while participants are in the locker room, or having a locker room monitor in the immediate vicinity (near the door) outside the locker room that also regularly and frequently enters the locker room to monitor activity inside. No adult should be in the locker room alone with a player. If only one player is left changing, the adult should wait outside the locker room.

Monitoring includes the prevention of bullying, threats, or harassment by teammates in the locker room. Bullying involves an intentional, persistent or repeated pattern of committing physical and non-physical

behaviors that are intended to cause fear, humiliation, or physical harm in an attempt to socially exclude, diminish, or isolate another person. It is a violation of this policy, and USA Hockey SafeSport Policy, if the coaches, team manager, or other responsible adult knows, or should know of, the bullying behavior but take no action to intervene on behalf of the targeted participant(s). Any concerns or incidents related to bullying or hazing behavior should be immediately reported to a member of the coaching staff, Team Manager, or Age Director.

Parents in Locker Rooms: Except for players at the younger age groups, 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, team manager or locker room monitor know 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.

Introductory Program, U6 Mites and U8 Mites: These age groups will adhere to a minimum attire policy. All players should arrive at the rink or change in a separate area so that prior to entering the locker room they are wearing their hockey base layers or shorts and t-shirts (in good condition - no holes or tears in clothing). All members of the team must have this minimum attire before entering a co-ed locker room so that no player has the opportunity to see players of the opposite gender in a state of dress/undress.

Mixed Gender Travel Teams (the following applies to our 10U, 12U and 14U age groups): As a co-ed organization, some of our travel teams may 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. FVYHA will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms at Tri County Ice Arena for all activities including practices, games, pre-season conditioning and tournaments sponsored by FVYHA.

For games, FVYHA will have male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room fully dressed approximately 15 minutes before the game. Once the game 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 change. If separate locker rooms are not available at locations outside Tri County Ice Arena, the head coach or team manager may ask all players to take turns using the locker rooms 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.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting: FVYHA 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 of FVYHA 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 directed to your SafeSport Coordinator (the President of the FVYHA). You may also email USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or may call 1-800-888-4656.