



Ice Dawgs 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 MayPort Area Ice Dawgs goals. MayPort Area Ice Dawgs 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, MayPort Area Ice Dawgs 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 Kim Braaten Memorial Arena, there are locker rooms available for our program's use. Some teams in our program may also occasionally or regularly travel to play games at other arenas, and those locker rooms, rest rooms and shower facilities will vary from location to location. MayPort Area Ice Dawgs team organizers will attempt to provide information on the locker room facilities in advance of games away from our home arena. At arenas for which you are unfamiliar, 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

MayPort Area Ice Dawgs has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (e.g., generally 30–45 minutes before and 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.

We conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas before players arrive. Coaches and/or team personnel who are **SafeSport certified** will make periodic checks of the locker rooms during use to ensure safety and appropriate behavior. When possible, supervision will be provided by adults of the same gender as the players.

Doors may be left open when adequate privacy is still possible, so that only participants (coaches and players) and approved team personnel are permitted in the locker room. Locker rooms will also be secured appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

Parents in Locker Rooms

For our **youngest age groups (Mites/8U and below)**, it is expected and necessary that parents may assist their child with getting dressed in the locker room. We encourage parents to teach their players as early as possible to dress independently.

For **Squirrels, 10U Girls, and all older levels, parents are not permitted in the locker rooms at any time.** This includes before and after practices and games. If a player needs assistance (for example, with tying skates, adjusting equipment, or other help), parents may provide that help **in the designated common areas of the rink**, not inside the locker room.

Coaches and SafeSport-screened locker room monitors will be available to ensure players are safe, supervised, and able to get ready for ice sessions.

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, MayPort Area Ice Dawgs 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 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, if available.

If separate locker rooms are not available, then all players should be required to arrive at the rink wearing their hockey base layers or shorts and t-shirts (in good condition — no holes or tears in clothing) under their street clothes. All members of the team must have this minimum attire before entering a co-ed locker room so that no player of one gender has the opportunity to see players of the opposite gender in a state of dress/undress.

Cell Phones, Social Media, and 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 for recording in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used for communication, they should be taken outside of the locker room.

Cell phones may be used in the locker room **for music only**, with the following expectations:

- **No explicit music:** All music must be clean and age-appropriate. Songs with profanity, sexual content, or disrespectful language are not allowed.
- **Respectful volume:** Music should be played at a reasonable volume that does not disrupt other teams or facility use.
- **Team approval:** Coaches and/or captains may determine playlists to ensure appropriateness.

Any **photos, videos, or posts on social media** that originate from inside the locker room — whether intended as a joke or not — are strictly prohibited. Sharing locker room activity on platforms such as Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram, or any other social media channel is considered a violation of this policy and will result in disciplinary action.

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Substances

The possession or use of **alcohol, tobacco products, vaping devices, marijuana, or other illegal substances** is strictly prohibited in all locker rooms.

Locker Room Use Is a Privilege

Use of the locker rooms is a **privilege, not a right**. All players, coaches, and team personnel are expected to respect these facilities, follow this policy, and uphold the standards of the MayPort Area Ice Dawgs and USA Hockey SafeSport.

Any misuse of the locker rooms, including violations of this policy, damage to property, disrespectful behavior, or unsafe conduct, may result in the suspension or loss of locker room access in addition to other disciplinary action.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

MayPort Area Ice Dawgs 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 MayPort Area Ice Dawgs may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these locker room policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies.

Reports of any actual or suspected violations may be made by emailing USA Hockey at **SafeSport@usahockey.org** or calling **1-800-888-4656**.