

MEYHA Locker Room and Photographic Devices Policy – also part of the MEYHA Handbook

(Effective for the 2025–2026 Season - Updated 11.17.2025)

The Mesabi East Youth Hockey Association (MEYHA) has adopted the following **Locker Room and Photographic Devices Policy** in compliance with **Minnesota Hockey, District 12** and **USA Hockey SafeSport Program guidelines**. This policy is reviewed and updated annually or when required to reflect any changes required by governing bodies.

Purpose

This policy is designed to maintain player privacy, provide a safe and respectful environment and reduce the risk of misconduct or abuse (physical and/or sexual) in locker rooms, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing.

Locker Room Access & Monitors

Supervision Required

Locker Room Monitors should conduct a sweep of the locker rooms and changing areas. No team(s) or player(s) may enter a locker room before a scheduled event until a proper **locker room monitor** is present. The locker room monitor will be posted directly **INSIDE** of the locker room and changing areas during periods of use and leave the doors open only when adequate privacy is still possible. Only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room (when appropriate). Team personnel will also secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

If there is a single player present, the locker room should be monitored by at least two locker monitors until additional players arrive. The monitor must remain until the last player has left. Coaches, team managers, or an approved screened adult may serve as monitors if present.

Screening of Monitors

All locker room monitors must follow the screening process in the MN Hockey Handbook, Sexual Abuse, Physical Abuse and Criminal Background Screening Policy. Volunteers **MUST** be registered as a volunteer with USA Hockey and complete SafeSport training.

Player Attire

All players **must** arrive at the arena in a **base layer**. All players of the team must have

this minimum attire before entering a 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.

Where possible, MEYHA will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convenes 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 and shower, if available. If separate locker rooms are not 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 our players.

For Squirts and older, only players, coaches, and approved locker room monitors are allowed in the locker room.

Meetings with Players

Any one-on-one meeting between a coach and a minor player must occur in an **observable and interruptible setting** (e.g., on the ice, on the bench, in the locker room with others present).

Violations & Consequences

Alleged violations will be reviewed under **Minnesota Hockey Bylaw Article 6**. Penalties may include suspension of the head coach or responsible party, along with fines:

1st Violation will result in a warning and discussion with the district/association and a \$500.00 fine to the Association.

2nd Violation will result in a \$1,000.00 fine to the Association and a hearing with the district/association.

3rd Violation will result in a \$1,500.00 fine to the Association and a hearing with the district/association.

Official Locker Room

No one is allowed into the Officials Locker room, without being invited in BY THE OFFICIALS. Violations of this rule will be reported to the D12 Supervisor of Officials, who will notify the D12 Director.

Photographic Devices

Cell phones and/or any type of photographic device(s) are **strictly prohibited** in locker rooms or locker room areas. Any player(s), locker room monitor(s), coach(s), parent(s), or person(s) caught using phones or photographic devices inside a locker room or has taken pictures or video from within a locker room and posted on social media, the following will be assessed:

Athletes/Players:

1. 1st Violation: After confirmation, the player shall be suspended from all team activities including “practices, games, (including tournament games), scrimmages, team events” for the next two (2) consecutive games or two (2) weeks of a season, whichever is greater. Players may not be in the locker room or on/near the team bench for games or practices during the suspension time. Player and Parents will meet with the Association President, Association Level Director to discuss future repercussions if it happens again. A \$500 fine will also be assessed to the team/association.
2. 2nd Violation: After confirmation, the player shall be suspended from all team activities including “practices, games, (including tournament games), scrimmages, team events” for the next four (4) consecutive games or three (3) weeks of a season, whichever is greater. Players may not be in the locker room or on/near the team bench for games or practices during the suspension time period. Player and Parents will meet with the Association President, Association Level Director, District 12 Director and District Level Coordinator to discuss future repercussions. A \$1,000.00 fine will also be assessed to the team/association.
3. 3rd Violation: After confirmation, the player shall be suspended from all team activities for a period of sixty (60) days. A \$1,500.00 fine will also be assessed to the team/association.

Coaches/Parents/Locker Room Monitors “Adult(s)”.

1. 1st Violation: After confirmation, the “Adult(s)” shall be suspended for the next two (2) consecutive games or two (2) weeks of the season, whichever is greater and assessed a \$500 fine. They will be required to meet with the Association

President and Association Level Coordinator to discuss future repercussions if it happens again.

2. 2nd Violation: After confirmation, the “Adult(s)” shall be suspended for the next four (4) consecutive games or three (3) weeks of a season, whichever is greater and assessed a \$1,000.00 fine. They will be required to meet with the Association President, Association Level Coordinator, District Director and District Level Coordinator to discuss future repercussions.
3. 3rd Violation: After confirmation, the “Adult(s)” shall be suspended for a period of sixty (60) days and will be ban from attending any sanctioned games, practices, D12 Activities, team functions and assessed a \$1,500.00 fine.

After the third (3rd) occurrence by either player or adult(s), the player or adult will be banned from all D12 Activities until a hearing committee shall be convened by D12, to determine any further disciplinary action is required. Any association with outstanding fines, may be considered not in good standing with the district, which will result in the association not being allowed to participate in district tournaments or district events.” These violations by a player or adult(s) can and will be carried over to the next season.

Prohibited Conduct

MEYHA strictly prohibits physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats or harassment, and hazing. These definitions are consistent with the **USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook**.

Reporting

Any concerns or suspected violations should be reported immediately.

Reports may be filed with:

- **USA Hockey SafeSport** (SafeSport@usahockey.org or 1-800-888-4656)
- A MEYHA Board Member
- District 12