

MEYHA Locker Room Policy – also part of the MEYHA Handbook

(Effective for the 2025–2026 Season)

The Mesabi East Youth Hockey Association (MEYHA) has adopted the following **Locker Room Policy** in compliance with **Minnesota Hockey** and **USA Hockey SafeSport guidelines**. This policy is reviewed and updated annually 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 in locker rooms.

Locker Room Access & Monitors

Supervision Required

No team or player may enter a locker room before a scheduled event until a **locker room monitor** is present. 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 complete a **background check** as required by Minnesota Hockey.

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. 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: \$500 for first offense, \$1,000 for second offense, and \$2,500 for third offense.

Mobile Devices

Cell phones and recording devices are not permitted in locker rooms. Devices must be used outside the locker room. (Team managers or coaches may collect phones if necessary.)

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