



LITTLETON HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
Littleton Hawks and Colorado 14ers

Locker Room Policy
2023-2024 Season

In addition to the development of hockey players and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is central to the goals of Littleton Hockey Association (“LHA”). Across all its programs, LHA adheres to USA Hockey’s SafeSport Program 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, LHA 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.

For most home games, LHA utilizes a variety of locker rooms at the Ice Ranch and/or Edge Ice Arena. Some of the individual locker rooms used by LHA may have its own restroom and shower area, some may share a restroom and shower area with one or more locker rooms, and some may not have restrooms or shower areas.

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.

Locker Room Monitoring

LHA has predictable and limited use of locker rooms, generally 30-60 minutes before and 20-30 minutes following practices and games. This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. While constant monitoring inside of locker rooms might be the most effective way to prevent problems, LHA understands this may make some players uncomfortable and might even place staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion.

LHA conduct a sweep of the locker rooms before players arrive, and if the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, a coach or team manager (who has been screened under applicable SafeSport Program procedures) will be posted outside of the locker rooms during periods of use, so that only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room.

Locker rooms need to be monitored during all team events by the head coach, or by one responsible adult designated by the head coach. The responsible adult must be certified and/or screened under applicable SafeSport Program procedures, and will typically be a coach or team manager. The responsible adult should supervise conduct, observe behavior, and make sure only approved team personnel and family members are allowed in the locker rooms.

For all 8U, 10U and 12U teams, the head coach or other responsible adult designated by the head coach must physically be present inside the locker room to supervise and monitor conduct. For all 14U, 16U, 18U and 19U teams, the head coach or other responsible adult designated by the head coach should appropriately monitor locker room conduct, but does not need to be physically present in the locker room.

Parents in Locker Rooms

Except for players participating in the 8U age groups, LHA discourages 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 LHA asks that parents let the coach know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player.

With our youngest age groups, it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. LHA encourages 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 locker rooms.

Mixed Gender Teams

Some LHA teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all LHA players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, LHA 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 practice 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. If separate locker rooms are not available, then the players will take turns using the locker room to change. LHA understands that these arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress, but believes this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all of our players.

Coaches in Locker Rooms

If a coach needs to speak to an individual player in the locker room, the door must remain open or another coach or parent must be present.

Coaches shall have a separate place to change and shower. Coaches are never to be nude among players.

Player Behavior in Locker Rooms

Additional provisions and guidelines regarding player behavior in locker rooms are as follows:

- Locker rooms and showers should be used by same-aged peers when possible.
- The showers are for showering only. No horseplay, urinating on others, physical contact, sexual activity or other forms of misconduct is allowed in showers.

- Players are not permitted to touch other players' genital areas. Players are not permitted to touch their own genital areas in a way that will make others uncomfortable.
- No pornographic materials are permitted in the locker room.
- Nudity is to be kept to a minimum. After showering, players are asked to dress quickly.
- No drugs, alcohol or other illegal substances are allowed.
- No physical contact of a sexual nature between players is allowed.

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; provided, however, that cell phones and other mobile devices may be used for the limited purpose of playing music. If phones or other mobile devices must be used for any other purpose, they should be taken outside of the locker room.

Valuables

In general, locker rooms remain unsecured while players and coaches are on the ice. Valuables should not be brought to or stored in locker rooms.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

LHA prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing in locker rooms, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Participants, employees or volunteers in LHA may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of this Locker Room Policy or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies.

Any misconduct, abuse or violation should be immediately reported to the Executive Director, the Littleton Hawks Hockey Director, the Colorado 14ers Hockey Director and/or the LHA SafeSport Coordinator.

Additional SafeSport and Member Handbook Provisions

The LHA Member Handbook and LHA SafeSport Handbook contain additional provisions applicable to locker rooms. The provisions of the LHA Member Handbook, the LHA SafeSport Handbook, and other applicable LHA Policies are included in this Locker Room Policy by reference. The LHA Member Handbook, the LHA SafeSport Handbook, and other LHA policy documentation may be amended from time to time by LHA.

Acknowledgment

By registering online, I certify that I have read and understand this Locker Room Policy, and that I agree to abide by all procedures and policies set forth by LHA.