

Clarification on Locker Room Monitors

This information is from CAHA for NCYH members

Colorado consistently ranks among the highest states in SafeSport reports, and nationwide, about 80% of reports to USA Hockey stem from locker room issues.

To strengthen protections and align with best practices shared at USA Hockey's June annual meetings, **CAHA has adopted the following locker room monitoring policies** (shared with members on August 3):

1. **Every team must have at least two non-coach locker room monitors** rostered (may include managers or other volunteers).
2. **Two locker room monitors must be present at every team event where a locker room is used.**
 - If only one non-coach monitor is available, that individual must remain in the doorway or immediately outside the locker room within earshot, checking in regularly.
3. **Coaches cannot serve as the only locker room monitor.**
4. **Monitors must be gender-appropriate.**
5. **All locker room monitors must be background screened, SafeSport trained, and cleared for the role.**

These changes are not intended to be punitive. Instead, they are designed to:

- Protect players and ensure locker rooms remain safe and respectful spaces.
- Support coaches by relieving them from being the only monitor and carrying full responsibility if an issue arises.

USA Hockey Policy Reminder:

All USA Hockey Member Programs must have at least one responsible, screened, and trained adult (coach, manager, or volunteer) monitoring the locker room during all team events.

- **Preferred practice:** Monitors should be inside the locker room.
- If monitors are inside, it is strongly recommended that there be **two** present, as this helps prevent potential allegations of impropriety.
- Programs or teams may enforce stricter monitoring requirements as needed.

CAHA appreciates the efforts of all organizations, coaches, and volunteers who support player safety and uphold the values of team culture in locker rooms.

— *USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook 2025*
