



# NYHA Gender Equality In The Locker Room



One of the main goals of the Novi Youth Hockey Association is to assure that all of our players feel like an equal and valued member of their team. With many co-ed teams, we recognize that privacy rights must be given consideration and offer gender equality to ALL our members. We comply with USA Hockey and MAHA bylaws and policies, which offer guidelines to ensure both female and male privacy rights in a coed locker room setting.

## MAHA Policy On Separate Changing Rooms

It is unacceptable for members to be observing the opposite gender while they dress or undress. Members and volunteers who violate USA Hockey’s policies, or who violate the privacy rights of others, could be subject to appropriate discipline. Per this guideline, one of these options must be followed:

- A)** Separate changing areas for female teammates: (i.e.: the figure skating room in the Novi Ice Arena).
  - I:** Where possible, have the male and female players undress/dress in separate locker rooms; then convene in a single locker room 15 minutes prior to ice time to hold the coach’s pregame meeting. This encourages team bonding and prevents any player from feeling isolated or left out.
  - II:** Once a game or practice is finished, allow 10 minutes for the coach’s to conduct a post-game meeting; then the male and female players can proceed to their separate dressing areas before changing out of gear.
- B)** In those cases where separate facilities are not available:
  - I:** Have one gender enter the locker room and change into their uniforms. That gender then leaves the locker room, while the other gender dresses. All players would then assemble in the locker room and hold the coach’s pre-game meeting.
  - II:** Following the game and the coach’s post-game meeting, where separate facilities are not available, the second gender group enters the locker room and undresses, while the first group waits outside until they have undressed and left the room. Once the second group leaves, the first group enters the locker room and undresses.
- C)** Minimum Garment Requirement:
  - I:** All team members must dress in a **MINIMUM** of shorts and t-shirt under their hockey gear. This option allows for all players to dress together in the same locker room and prevents any member from feeling left out or unwelcome.
  - II:** Acceptable apparel include: hockey support/cup shorts, UnderArmour shorts, compression leggings/shorts, etc. and a t-shirt will suffice. Please note: **NO EXPOSED UNDERWEAR.**

Lastly, out of courtesy for all teammates, please direct any players to the public rest rooms down the hall for any last-minute bathroom stops.

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signature of parent

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signature of parent

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signature of player

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printed name

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