

HOWARD HUSKIES LOCKER ROOM POLICY

In addition to the development of our hockey players and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is central to our goals. The Howard Huskies adhere to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program as a means 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, the Club has adopted the following locker room policy.

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be outside of the locker room.

Some of our teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all of our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Beginning at the 10U (Squirt) and through the 12U (PeeWee) age level, both male and female players will dress/undress in a single locker room, however players are to arrive at the locker room with a minimum base layer* already worn.

Beginning at the 14U (Bantam) age group, level, where possible, the Huskies 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 team meeting providing that players at a minimum have a **base layer*** of clothing/equipment already on.

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 of our players.

When a team consist of both male and female players (Co-ED) and will require an additional locker room, it is the Team manager's responsibility to contact facility/rink in order to reserve the additional dressing room. Team personnel will also secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

The Club has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas. This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. Participants are not allowed to enter the locker rooms unless the Coach or an approved locker room monitor is present in the locker room or immediately outside the locker room.

It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to ensure that two (2) Locker Room Monitors are present for both practices and games. Locker Room Monitors can consist of Coaches and Team Managers along with additionally assigned volunteers providing they have completed the training and certification required to be fulfill the responsibilities of a Locker Room Monitor.

Violation of this rule can result in the player losing their privileges and will result in the player having to dress before arriving at the rink.

*A **base layer*** consists of: shorts, t-shirts, compression shorts or shirts. No undergarments of any kind should be visible to other participants (including sports bras). A participant not arriving at the rink wearing their base layer can use an appropriate private space (e.g., private restroom stalls or empty/unused dressing rooms) to change into the base layer and then enter the team dressing room with the other participants.*

Updated: December 11th, 2023