



## Lincoln Ice Hockey Association - Locker Room Monitoring Policy

The USA Hockey rule is simple. It requires that at least one responsible adult be in all hockey locker rooms at all times when players are present. A coach frequently has reason to leave the locker room, and this suggests always having some other responsible adult present. Each team shall form a group of parents, who shall be screened and then scheduled so that at least one of them are in the locker room or right outside the door at all times before and after practices and games when the players are there. It is the preference of the board that two monitors are on duty for legal protection of the monitors monitoring. We ask that the monitor be there a 1/2 hour before the practice to allow the player's time to dress and not to leave until the last player is done. Parents, please remind your children the locker room is a place to change, not a social place. The monitor is responsible for securing the locker room when the players are on the ice. The monitor is limited to supervision; they are not an additional coach.

We would prefer that the monitor be of the same gender of those being monitored but the board understands that is not always possible. If genders do not match, the monitor will stand outside the locker room door, if they hear of a potential reason to enter; they will shout a warning into the locker room and then enter to address the issue.

In addition to hazing, rough-housing and verbal abuse, coaches and the supervising parents need to be reminded that many players bring cellphones to hockey practices and games. Sometimes the phone is needed to call for a ride home. Most cellphones, however, include a digital camera. The opportunity for inappropriate locker room photos exists, and our players may not realize the harm such pictures cause when published on the Internet. To prevent this from happening cellphones are to remain in the players hockey bag at all times.

The player will be given one verbal warning by the locker room monitor, if after the one verbal warning the action continues, the player will lose locker room privileges for the two weeks. If the players continues to have infractions, they will be reviewed by the disciplinary board

Implementing the new rule will require time and cooperation from everyone. Supervision should not be the coach's responsibility; it is part of the team's parental duties. These rules go for all levels and divisions of hockey. These rules originated jointly from the USA Hockey's Coaching Section and the USA Hockey Risk Management Committee. It was adopted with a near-unanimous vote of the USA Hockey Board of Directors. It is another of the rules designed to protect our players, coaches and volunteers, not unlike background screening and helmets for referees and coaches. Its implementation requires and deserves the assistance of all players, coaches, parents and volunteers.