

Saratoga Youth Hockey's Locker Room Policy

SYHI 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, SYHI 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.

At Saratoga's Weibel and Vernon Rinks there are 4 of locker rooms available for our program's use. Each of the locker rooms has access to restrooms and shower area. As teams in our program also regularly travel to play games at other arenas, and those locker rooms, rest rooms and shower facilities will vary.

Locker Room Monitoring

SYHI allows use of locker rooms and changing areas, 40 minutes before and 30 minutes after practices and games unless otherwise directed by the Head Coach. This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas.

Coaches and screened volunteers conduct sweeps of the locker rooms and changing areas daily, and if the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, either a coach or volunteers will be outside of the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use, and leave the doors open only when adequate privacy is still possible, so that only coaches, players and approved team personnel are permitted in the locker room. Any and all personnel or volunteers that monitor or enter locker rooms are required to complete a NYS Screening at www.nysaha.com.

Parents in Locker Rooms

Parents of players in younger age groups, LTS, LTP, Mites and Squirts, may enter the locker room to assist players with his/her gear, but are required to leave the locker room 15 minutes prior to a games and practices. We encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to get dressed independently. Parents are restricted from entering locker rooms in age groups PeeWee and above. Exceptions are the following situations: if the player is or may be injured, or a player's disability warrants assistance. If a child requires a parental assistance a member of team personnel will notify the parent.

Mixed Gender Teams – Minimal Dress Policy

Some 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. For co-ed teams, the players are required to enter the locker room they are wearing their hockey base layers or shorts and t-shirts (in good condition - no holes or tears in clothing). All members of the team must have this minimum attire before entering the co-ed locker room so that no player has the opportunity to see players of the opposite gender in a state of dress/undress.

Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices

Following USA Hockey regulations - Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, cameras and video cameras, are NOT permitted in the locker rooms. Parents should collect phones prior to a child entering a locker room. If necessary a team manager or coach may collect phones. If teams choose to play music prior to a game, Ipods and other mp3 players are permissible, however cameras and other recording capabilities are NOT permitted for use.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

SYHI prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Participants, employees or volunteers in SYHI may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these locker room policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. To report any actual or suspected violations, email SYHI at jjule@rmhcofalbany.org and USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or call 1-800-888-4656.