

Quad City Hockey Association Locker Room Policy

Revised July 2025

At the Quad City Hockey Association (QCHA), the development of our players and their enjoyment of hockey are central to our mission. Equally important is the safety and protection of all participants. QCHA follows USA Hockey's SafeSport Program to help safeguard participants from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, as well as bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing. This Locker Room Policy is designed to protect personal privacy and reduce the risk of misconduct in locker room settings.

Locker Room Access and Use

QCHA teams primarily use eight (8) locker rooms at The River's Edge. Each locker room has access to restroom and shower facilities—either private or shared. When teams travel for games, locker room accommodations will vary by location. Team organizers will make every effort to provide information about visiting facilities in advance. Parents should allow additional time and flexibility for their players to dress, undress, or shower as needed.

Locker Room Monitoring

Locker room access typically occurs 30–45 minutes before and after practices or games. This limited and predictable use allows for consistent monitoring. While continuous monitoring inside locker rooms may seem ideal, it can create discomfort for players and raise concerns for volunteers. Instead, the following monitoring procedures apply:

- A sweep of the locker room will be conducted before player arrival.
- At least one (1) locker room monitor must be present at all times when players are inside the locker room.
- A second SafeSport-certified volunteer must be designated as a backup monitor and must be immediately available if the primary monitor cannot be present.
- If coaches are not present inside the locker room, a designated volunteer monitor—who has completed a background check and is SafeSport certified—must be stationed inside the locker room during use.
- Only players, coaches, SafeSport-approved team personnel, and designated family members are allowed in the locker room.
- Coaches of travel teams are responsible for ensuring proper locker room monitoring. The House League Director will oversee monitoring for house teams.
- Failure to comply with locker room monitoring requirements may result in disciplinary action.
- Team personnel are responsible for securing locker rooms during on-ice sessions.

Parent Access

Parent access to locker rooms is limited and discouraged for players above the Mite (U8) level, unless absolutely necessary. Exceptions include:

- Assisting with equipment or gear
- Supporting a player with an injury or disability

Parents must notify a coach before entering the locker room for these purposes. For younger players, parental assistance is expected and appropriate. However, we encourage teaching

players independence in dressing as early as possible.

Coaches may ask parents to leave the locker room briefly before and after games to allow for private team discussions. As players progress to older age groups, coaches may, at their discretion, restrict parental access altogether.

Note:

- Males are never permitted in the female locker room.
- Females are not permitted in the general locker rooms used by Squirt (U10) and older teams while occupied.

Mixed-Gender Teams

For teams with both male and female players, QCHA strives to respect the privacy of all athletes. When possible:

- Players will dress/undress in separate locker rooms and gather in one room for pre-game or post-game team meetings.
- After meetings, players return to their respective locker rooms to change or shower, if facilities are available.
- If only one locker room is available, players will alternate use to ensure privacy.

These arrangements may require players to arrive earlier or leave later, but they are designed to provide a respectful and inclusive environment for all.

Mobile Phones and Recording Devices

Use of mobile phones or devices with recording capabilities (including audio, photo, and video) is strictly prohibited inside locker rooms. If device use is necessary, players must step outside the locker room. Team managers may collect phones or devices if needed for enforcement.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

All forms of abuse—physical, sexual, emotional—along with bullying, threats, harassment, and hazing are strictly prohibited, as outlined in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Violations of this policy or of SafeSport standards by players, staff, or volunteers may result in disciplinary action.

To report violations or suspicions of misconduct:

- Email: SafeSport@usahockey.org
- Phone: 1-800-888-4656

Policy Violations and Penalties

Teams at the Travel or Select levels that fail to comply with locker room monitoring requirements and where prohibited conduct occurs may be fined by the Midwest Amateur Hockey Association (MWAHA). These fines are determined by MWAHA and must be paid by the entire team, not just those directly involved.

For house league violations, any fines assessed will be paid by the Quad City Hockey Association.

Acknowledgment of Locker Room Policy Compliance

This form must be signed by each participant's parent or guardian and returned to the team manager prior to the first scheduled game or practice.

Player Name: _____

Team Name & Level: _____

I have read and understand the Quad City Hockey Association Locker Room Policy (Revised July 2025) and agree to comply with its terms. I acknowledge the importance of locker room safety, supervision, and respectful conduct as outlined in this policy.

I also understand that failure to comply with these standards may result in disciplinary action for my child, our team, or associated personnel, including fines as outlined by QCHA and MWAHA.

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____