

GSAHA LOCKER ROOM MONITORS

Locker Rooms

Youth players are particularly vulnerable in locker rooms, changing areas and restrooms due to various stages of dress/undress and because they are less supervised than at many other times. Athlete-to-athlete problems, such as sexual abuse and bullying, harassment, and hazing, often occur when coaches are not in a position to observe – this is especially true in locker rooms.

Adherence to a locker room policy enhances privacy and reduces the likelihood of misconduct. Proper supervision of the locker room areas also helps ensure that players that may have suffered an injury during a game or practice have an adult present to confer with regarding such injury.

Locker Room Supervision

The GSAHA as well as USA Hockey and Michigan Amateur Hockey Association is concerned with locker room activities between minor players; minor players and adult players adults being alone with individual minor players in locker rooms; and with non-official or non-related adults having unsupervised access to minor participants at sanctioned team events.

It is the policy of the GSAHA as a local hockey program to have at least two responsible and gender appropriate adults present and directly monitoring the locker room during all team events to assure that only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room and to supervise the conduct in the locker room.

Co-Ed Locker Rooms

As a team sport in which youth teams can often include both male and female players, special circumstances may exist that can increase the chance of abuse or misconduct. If the team consists of both male and female players, both female and male privacy rights must be given consideration and appropriate arrangements made.

It is not acceptable under the USA Hockey Sexual Abuse Policy for members to be observing the opposite gender while they dress or undress. Where possible, the male and female players should undress/dress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single dressing room prior to the game or team meeting.

Once the game is finished, the players may come to one locker room and then the male and female players proceed to their separate dressing rooms to undress and shower (separately), if available. If separate locker rooms are not available, then the genders may take turns using the locker room to change and then leave while the other gender changes. Where possible, when both male and female players are together in the locker room, there should be at least two adults in the locker room that have been properly screened in compliance with USA Hockey Screening Policy. Please refer to USA Hockey's Co-Ed Locker Room Policy set forth in the USA Hockey Annual Guide.

How to Become a Locker Room Monitor

Below are the requirements you will need to complete so we can get your team properly registered with USA Hockey. Background screening and safe sport training are good for two (2) seasons. Please complete these steps as soon as possible.

LOCKER ROOM MONITORS must complete the following prior to interfacing with the team:

1. Register with USA Hockey as a Volunteer (no fee):

<http://www.usahockey.com/page/show/1574660-usa-hockey-registration>

2. Register with the GSAHA as a Volunteer (no fee):

<https://www.saginawbayicearena.com/page/show/3615853-registration>

3. Complete MAHA Background Screening (\$12.00 fee):

<http://www.maha.org/page/show/1284902-background-check>

4. Complete USA Hockey Safe Sport Training (no fee):

<http://www.usahockey.com/page/show/908023-usa-hockey-safesport-program>

Questions? Please contact the office.

Thank you for serving as a Locker Room Monitor. Your assistance to the team will be invaluable.

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