

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 the Delmarva Raptors goals. The Delmarva Raptors 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, the Delmarva Raptors 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. **All players must change in a locker room.**

Locker Room Monitoring

When possible, locker rooms and changing areas should be reviewed by either a coach or voluntary locker room monitor before players arrive, and if the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, either a coach or voluntary locker room monitor (each of which has been Safe Sport approved) will monitor the locker rooms and changing areas during periods of use. Doors will be left open only when adequate privacy is still possible so that only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel, and family members are permitted in the locker room.

PLAYER CONDUCT IN LOCKER ROOMS

In addition to the general Code of Conduct set forth above, players will adhere to following locker room standards of behavior.

Players are expected to listen and follow the instructions of the designated locker room monitors at all times. Locker rooms, both home and away, will be left clean and in good condition. In particular, but not exclusively, players may be disciplined for:

- Defacing or destroying property belonging to any individual, team, association, or rink
- Wrestling, boxing, shoving, or engaging in physical contact of any manner
- Throwing items in the locker room
- Touching any equipment or clothing that does not belong to that player
- Stickhandling or performing other hockey warm-up drills inside the locker room. Hockey warm-up drills are only to be performed in areas designated by Head Coaches
- Exhibiting disrespectful behavior to fellow players, coaches or team representatives

Parents in Locker Rooms

Except for players at the younger age groups, we discourage parents from entering locker rooms unless it is truly necessary. If a player needs assistance with his or her uniform or gear, if the player is or may be injured, or a player's disability warrants assistance, then we ask that parents let the coach know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player. Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. We encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to get dressed so that players will learn as early as possible how to get dressed independently. In circumstances where parents are permitted in the locker room, coaches are permitted to ask the parents to leave for a short time before the game and for a short time after the game so that the coaches may address the players. As players get older, the coach may in his or her discretion prohibit parents from a locker room.

Mixed Gender Teams

Some of our teams may consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. During the regular season, all players on mixed gender teams are required to enter the locker room wearing their hockey base layers or shorts and tee shirts and such attire must remain on when all players undress and remove their gear. All members of the team must have this minimum attire before entering a co-ed locker room so that no player of one gender has the opportunity to see players of the opposite gender in a state of undress. In addition, the rink shall ensure that the separately designated girls locker room is available during all practices and games, for those that choose to use the separate facilities. All locker rooms must have a monitor.

Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices

It is Delmarva Raptors policy that there will be neither audio nor video recording or photography permitted in any locker room under any circumstance. Players and/or coaches may have access to cellular telephones but the use of said phones is limited to areas outside locker rooms only. Players and/or coaches may also use electronic equipment to play music or review video footage of game/practice plays. No other use of electronics in the locker room is permitted. The use of electronic devices in the approved manner listed above is a privilege and not a right. Any allegations of recording or photography must be reported to the Commissioner. Confirmed issues will result in the team losing their privilege and all electronics banned from the locker room for the remainder of the season.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

The Delmarva Raptors 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 of the Delmarva Raptors 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. All members are encouraged to report allegations of misconduct to their team manager who will then forward to the Commissioner for investigation.