



Reston Raiders Hockey Club

Locker Room Policy (amended 2014)

This policy applies to *coaches, parents, and players for all Reston Raider teams.*

The purpose of this policy is to:

- maintain a safe, clean, and enjoyable environment for practice and games
- continue a good relationship with the rink
- encourage and teach respect for property to the Reston Raiders youth players
- comply with USA Hockey SafeSport policies found at usahockey.com/safesport

Please be aware that each player represents the Reston Raiders Hockey Club and should conduct themselves accordingly at every rink. Raiders are required to follow these procedures when using any locker room facilities for any purpose. This includes 'away' rinks. Be sure to inform anyone who might be obtaining the key to the locker room of this policy in order to protect your team and the club from liability for damages.

Each team must:

Obtain Access to locker room

Follow rink rules by leaving a license, keys, or whatever is required by the rink to obtain access to the assigned locker room.

Inspect Before Use

You **MUST** inspect the locker room for cleanliness and damage upon entering, and notify rink management of any adverse conditions. In particular, check toilets, showers, and sinks. If you do NOT do so, your team will be at risk for liability for damage found in the room after your use.

Monitor and Supervise During Use

Maintain proper adult supervision while the locker room is occupied by Raider youth players, pursuant to USA Hockey SafeSport policies:

- Two coaches or screened volunteers should be in the locker room whenever it is in use by the team, before and after games and practices;
- Limit the time parents are in locker rooms;
- Prohibit the use of cellphones and the taking of any photographs/videos/recordings in the locker room;
- Ensure no prohibited behaviors (abuse, harassment, bullying, hazing, threats) are occurring in the locker room;
- Attempt to locate a separate locker room for female players, and, if one is not available, ensure that female players dress/undress at separate times from male players, and
- Keep the door locked while the team is on the ice. A rink employee may lock any room found unattended and unlocked.

The head coach of each team shall be responsible for monitoring his or her own team so that locker rooms are properly supervised in accordance with USA SafeSport policy. When the head coach is not personally available for direct supervision, he or she may delegate responsibility to appropriate team personnel for certain activities, always with the understanding that the head coach is the primary supervisor of the team responsible for compliance with this policy

Inspect After use

When your team finishes using the locker room, it should be left undamaged and clean. Inspect toilets, showers, and sinks for damage. Clean up any messes or spills. Be sure to remove all trash, including tape balls, paper, and empty bottles.

Vacate

You should ask a rink employee to inspect the locker room upon your departure, to ensure that your team is not held liable for any damage found later.

Fines and Consequences

Be aware that rinks may impose fines if a locker room is vandalized. Your team will be responsible for any and all repairs required as a result of inappropriate use of the locker room facilities.

Also be aware that the cost of cleaning and maintaining locker rooms is part of the Raiders' cost for using ice at our home rinks - more work for rink staff adds cost directly to the club.

Home rink management will have access to contact information for head coaches and team managers for every Raider team, in order to follow up on any issues. Issues will be addressed by the Reston Raiders Disciplinary Committee, in communication with rink and team management.

Coed Locker Room Policy

USA Hockey recommends that girl players dress in a separate locker room, or if not possible, that girls and boys take turns using a locker room for dressing for games. Teams may assemble in the locker room for the coach's pre- and postgame meetings.



Locker Room Monitoring

There is predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (e.g., generally 30-60 minutes before and following practices and games). This allows for direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas. While constant monitoring inside of locker rooms and changing areas might be the most effective way to prevent problems, this would likely make some players uncomfortable and may even place staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion. If the coaches are not inside the locker rooms, either a coach or voluntary locker room monitors (each of which has been screened) will be posted directly 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 participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room. Team personnel will also secure the locker room appropriately during times when the team is on the ice.

Parents in Locker Rooms

Except for players at the squirt and mite age groups, parents are discouraged 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 parents should let the coach know beforehand that he or she will be helping the player. Naturally, with the youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed.

Parents are encouraged 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 that the parents 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 teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, male and female players should dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game or team meeting. Once the game or practice is finished, the players may come to one locker room for a team meeting and then the male and female players proceed to their separate locker rooms to undress and shower, if available. If separate locker rooms are not available, then the players will take turns using the locker room to change. These arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress, but this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all of players.

Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room. Coaches and team managers are authorized to collect phones.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

All types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook, are prohibited. Participants, employees or volunteers 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. Reports of any actual or suspected violations may be made by email to USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or call 1-800-888-4656.