



PELHAM MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



DRESSING ROOM POLICY (Adopted from Hockey Canada)

1. INTRODUCTION

Hockey Canada firmly believes in accommodating both genders in our great game. We further believe in balancing this goal with the safety, privacy, modesty and wishes of ALL our members without compromising the aspects of camaraderie, social integration and bonding inherent in a team sport. This policy attempts to meet all these goals while providing a safe and respectful environment for our participants.

2. DRESSING ROOM GUIDELINES

- a. Hockey Canada stresses the importance of coaches in ensuring both male and female players have equal access to pre and post team sessions and to all team related activities.
- b. Hockey Canada recognizes the physical limitations of some facilities and encourages our members to work with local facility management to ensure that appropriate changing facilities are available to both genders.
- c. Hockey Canada allows co-ed dressing room situations to exist at the Initiation Program, Novice and Atom levels, 5-10 years of age provided participants in a co-ed situation either arrive in full equipment or wear at a minimum gym shorts or long underwear as well as a full t-shirt (no tank tops) all of which must be in good condition and without holes/tears.
- d. There must be a minimum of two members of a team's coaching staff present in the dressing room at all times. Due to facility restrictions a team may have players in two different dressing rooms, if this is the case the first point must be enforced for the room of the most-represented gender. All coaching staff must still be aware of their players at all times when they are in a dressing room.
- e. At the Pee-Wee (11 years old) level and above the following conditions will apply in all co-ed team environments:
 - Where possible, females and males will change in separate dressing rooms;
 - If it is not possible to have separate change rooms, then:
 - i. All players should arrive at least 30 minutes prior to practice and 45-60 minutes prior to games in order to accommodate the less-represented gender, allowing them to change into their under-equipment gear prior to the more-represented gender entering the dressing room;

- ii. If a player shows up late, they should ensure they already have their under equipment gear on;
 - iii. The lesser represented gender shall depart the dressing room not more than 15 minutes after the game/practice unless otherwise indicated (to stay longer) by the coaching staff. The gender in the majority shall be fully changed and showered and depart the dressing room not more than 15 minutes after the lesser represented gender has departed the dressing room to allow the lesser represented gender to return to the dressing room to change and shower.
 - iv. The gender in the majority shall not begin changing, helmets, gloves and skates excepted, prior to the departure of the lesser represented gender; When necessary, due to facility limitations, dressing and showering shall be done in shifts with one gender dressing and showering first. Once the room with shower facilities has been fully vacated the other gender may use the shower facilities.
- f. Only parents of players in the Atom division and below are allowed to enter the hallway to the dressing rooms before and after practices and games.

SUMMARY

It is the belief of Hockey Canada that these provisions adequately address issues of team unity/camaraderie and provide for the modesty/privacy of all participants.

Note: Hockey Canada Branches that have mediated Human Rights settlements within their Province/Territory with respect to specific co-ed dressing room parameters are exempted from this policy within their jurisdictions and may continue to adhere to previously mediated settlements.