



## Susquehanna Valley Stampede 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 Susquehanna Valley Stampede Youth Hockey Club. SVYHC 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, SVYHC 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.

At the Sunbury Ice Rink, the following locker rooms are available:

### Rink Side

- Locker Room 1 - Women's Locker Room
- Locker Room 2 - Men's Locker Room
- Locker Room 3 - Men's Locker Room

### Pool Side

- Men's Locker Room
- Women's Locker Room

A coach or volunteer locker room monitor 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.

### Locker Room Monitoring

SVYHC has predictable and limited use of locker rooms and changing areas (e.g., generally 30-45 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, we understand that this would likely make some players uncomfortable and may even place our staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion.



## Parents in Locker Rooms

Except for players at the younger age groups [Mites & Squirrels], 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 in 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 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 at his or her discretion prohibit parents from a locker room.

## Mixed Gender Teams

Some of our teams 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. Where possible, Susquehanna Valley Stampede, will have the male and female players 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. We understand that these arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress but believe that this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all our players.

## Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices

Neither audio nor video recording or photography permitted in any locker room under any circumstance. 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 Board of Directors immediately. Confirmed issues will result in the team losing their privilege and all electronics banned from the locker room for the remainder of the season. Furthermore, any allegation that involves the recording or photography of players dressing or undressing will be immediately reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency with jurisdiction of the locker room where the alleged incident occurred.



## Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

SVYHC 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, or volunteers in Susquehanna Valley Stampede 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, you may email USA Hockey at [SafeSport@usahockey.org](mailto:SafeSport@usahockey.org) or may call 1-800-888-4656.