



Changing Room Policy

Guidance for Good Practice and Safeguarding linked to Changing Rooms

The following policy is to support all adults and children within the MKJIHC under safeguarding good practice. It is not only there to protect the children/players, but also the adults in contact with them, including parents. All children and young people (players) using changing rooms will be supervised by a minimum of two members of Club officials which can include; EIHA registered managers, assistant managers, off ice team officials, coach or designated safeguarding lead, who have current enhanced EIHA DBS disclosure and should visibly display their EIHA Licence at all times.

In extenuating circumstances, an executive committee member or a registered EIHA game official with a current EIHA DBS, can support in the changing room at the discretion of the team coach or manager until suitable officials have arrived.

Universal Principals

For all age groups - Parents are not allowed in the changing room unless invited by a club official or manager.

One DBS registered club official adult should never be left alone in the presence of players. If a club official finds themselves alone with players, then they should ask for support from a DBS checked person. If this is not possible then help should be sought from another adult until a DBS checked person is available.

Adult officials (e.g. coaches, physios, match officials, other volunteers) should not change or shower at the same time using the same facility as the players.

Parents do not have an automatic right to enter changing rooms.

In the event of a player having to return to the changing room through injury they should be accompanied by their manager and accompanying first aider or alternative adult. Who will in turn inform the parent or guardian.

Overly loud music in changing rooms is not conducive to providing a safe and friendly environment for children especially those who have sensory needs. Inappropriate music must not be allowed in the presence of players; this includes music with words or connotations that are considered: homophobic, racist, sexist or swearing. The team manager and coach are responsible for being aware of any SEN needs of their teammates that could be affected by having music in the changing rooms.



Changing Room Policy

Universal Principals continued

The use of sticks and pucks are not to be used in and around the changing rooms and the ice rink unless on the ice and/or directed by coaches in an off-ice drill under controlled conditions.

The use of mobile phones and other recording equipment is banned in the changing rooms. A player who has brought their phone into the changing room must hand it to the manager or to their parents for safe keeping, where it will be returned at the end of training and or match. It is the player's responsibility to ask for their Phone to be returned.

If you arrive early or late to a training session or game and another age group is using the changing area, then you must consult your managers or coaches about using an alternative changing area.

Home changing room priority is given to teams coming onto the ice for a game. Therefore, players coming off the ice may have to wait for the changing areas to become available. This is to allow players to focus on the upcoming game.

When kit bags are removed from the changing room, they should not be left where they will block any fire exits or access points. Best practice is to stack them neatly to the side of the ice pad, where they will not hinder movement.

Kit bags are the property of the individual player and therefore no one has the right to enter into another player's kit bag without prior consent from that individual. If a player chooses to remove or to interfere with another player's kit bag they will be sent home.



Changing Room Policy

U10s and U12s – Game Day

Parents are not allowed in the changing room unless invited by a club official or manager. There will always be a minimum of 2 club officials in the changing rooms to support children to get ready. Club officials include EIHA registered managers, assistant managers, off ice team officials, coach or designated safeguarding lead, who have current enhanced EIHA DBS disclosure and should visibly display their EIHA Licence at all times. Parents will not be allowed to enter the changing room unless requested to do so by the manager. Young players are encouraged to practice dressing themselves at home

On game days we encourage all children to get changed in the changing rooms with their teammates. This is an important part of game preparation to be with their teammates and be present for coach and manager chats ahead of the game.

Once children arrive at the rink on game days they will be met by the coach/manager and will then be the responsibility of our officials. Any support the children need in getting ready will be provided by our officials in the changing room. To ensure the safety of the children we ask they do not leave to see parents unless there are circumstances for this. We want to promote teamwork and independence across all age groups.

If children need support with tying skates this can be completed by parents outside the changing room, however, this must be communicated with the team coach/manager before children leave the changing room.

Players must arrive and leave in a minimum of base layers/sweat suits. Skins must be worn at all times while in the changing room and rink side. Skins are defined as cycling shorts or legging no shorter than mid-thigh and vests or t-shirts that cover the chest are down to the waist. Player cannot walk outside of the changing area in their underwear which includes bras, this also applies to mix gender changing rooms.

Club officials must supervise the changing room during game days at all times.



Changing Room Policy

U10s and U12s – Training

Nominated changing rooms should be used.

It is recommended that only 1 parent or adult guardian may help dress a player. Once dressing is completed then the parent/guardian and player must leave the dressing room in line with the open-door policy in place. None of the players should be entering the dressing room without their parent/guardian, at no point should the players be left in the changing room alone.

To ensure the safety of children and parents, it is the responsibility of parents to ensure they are not left in the changing room on their own with children who are not their own unless agreed between parents to take responsibility of that child.

U14s, U16s and U18s - Game Day

Parents are not allowed in the changing room unless invited by a club official or manager. U14s, U16s and U18s should not need parental support with dressing and parents/guardians should not be needed in dressing rooms. Parents should raise any concerns with managers and coaches.

There will always be a minimum of 2 club officials supervising the changing rooms and corridor. Club officials include EIHA registered managers, assistant managers, off ice team officials, coach or designated safeguarding lead, who have current enhanced EIHA DBS disclosure and should visibly display their EIHA badge at all times. Parents will not be allowed to enter the changing room unless requested to do so by the manager.

Separate changing areas should be made available for male and female players both at home and away rinks where possible. Where males and females dress together in any age group, they must arrive and leave in a minimum of base layers/sweat suits. Skins must be worn at all times whilst in the changing room and rink side. Skins are defined as cycling shorts or leggings no shorter than mid-thigh and vests or t-shirts that cover the chest area down to the waist. Player cannot walk outside of the changing area in their underwear which includes bras, this also applies to mix gender changing rooms.



Changing Room Policy

U14s, U16s and U18s - Training

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All Age Groups.

If the changing areas are to be used by another Skating Club after the MKJIHC, they need to be cleared of players and possessions at the end of the ice hockey training session and Rubbish put into bins. All changing rooms should be left Clean and tidy. If players do not respect the changing rooms and do cause unnecessary mess or damage, this will lead to disciplinary action being taken which could result in bans from the changing rooms.