

Western Riptide Female Hockey Association (WRFHA)

Dressing Room Supervision Policy

The following is the Western Riptide Female Hockey Association Policy with respect to Supervision of Female Hockey dressing rooms. This policy is intended to supplement the Hockey Nova Scotia Dressing Room Supervision Policy.

WRFHA's dressing room policies are in place to balance the safety, privacy and dignity of our players without compromising the aspects of camaraderie, social integration and bonding inherent in a team sport. WRFHA must meet, at minimum, the dressing room supervision policy of our governing body.

FEMALE SUPERVISOR IN THE DRESSING ROOM

There must be a minimum of two female supervisors (Two Deep Method) at all times, including during "Coach Talk." Female Dressing Room Supervisors will be assigned by Team Managers in a manner that will be defined at the beginning of each season and communicated to all team members.

The purpose of this role is to:

- Two Female Dressing Room Supervisors must be the first to enter dressing rooms and the last to leave.
- Support the players in maintaining a safe, respectful and inclusive dressing room atmosphere.
- Support the players in remaining on time for any pre-game expectations (dryland warm-up, dressed for coach talk, etc).
- Support the players in any equipment needs or other hockey related issues.
- Monitor and enforce the Dressing Room Supervision Policy, which includes males / coaches in the dressing room and the use of cell phones (see below).
- Report any issues to the Team Manager immediately.
- Avoid contact with players to the extent that is possible. Female Dressing Room Supervisors may assist with equipment and/or tying skates.
- Suggest players do not share water bottles, equipment, towels or other personal items.
- Remain in the dressing room at all times whenever there are players present (before, during and after practices, games or any other Association sanctioned events or activities).
- Ensure adjoining bathrooms and/or showers are empty and safe for use if needed (ie. in rinks where dressing rooms share a washroom between dressing rooms)
- Ensure no cell phones, tablets or cameras are used in the dressing room. Absolutely no photos, video or voice recording may be taken inside a dressing room.
- Ensure two female dressing room monitors or a female dressing room monitor and team staff are actively involved in any one-on-one player / adult conversations that take place in a dressing room.

- Report any infractions or issues to the Team Manager and/or Team Safety Representative.
- Bring any health and safety concerns to the Team Manager and/or Team Safety Representative.

MALES / COACHES IN THE DRESSING ROOM

For U11, U13, U15 and U18 age divisions, no males are permitted in the dressing room outside of “Coach Talk” times. “Coach Talk” routines at practices and games should be clearly articulated to the teams (ie 15 minutes prior to ice time). Players arriving late for a game must not undress during Pre-Game “Coach Talk” and must wait until the coaches leave the room. Players must not remove equipment (with the exception of helmet and gloves) during the Post-Game “Coach Talk.”

CELL PHONES IN THE DRESSING ROOM

According to Hockey Nova Scotia, photos taken in the dressing room fall under the Dressing Room Supervision and Social Media Policy and are not permitted.

Teams may have music in the dressing room. Use of a cell phone is permitted for this purpose and its use must be clearly articulated to the team and monitored by the Female Dressing Room Supervisors.

In the case of special events (e.g., championships, etc), where no other location can be found for a photo, cell phones may be permitted in the dressing room for this purpose and all players must be appropriately dressed and give consent for a photo.

REQUIREMENTS TO BE A FEMALE DRESSING ROOM SUPERVISOR

Female Dressing Room Supervisors must hold the following current certifications and be approved first by the Association and then Hockey Nova Scotia. As of November 2022 this includes:

- Respect In Sport Activity Leader Program
- Criminal Record Check (with Vulnerable Sector Check)
- HU Planning a Safe Return to Hockey Course

SELECTION OF DRESSING ROOM MONITORS

- All interested volunteers must submit a declaration of interest to be reviewed by the Head Coach.
- All Dressing Room Monitors are selected and approved by the Head Coach and Board of Directors.
- The Western Riptide Board of Directors and reserves the right to remove privileges of Dressing Room Monitors at any time.