



## Dressing Room Policy

### Intent

Red Circle Hockey Club (RCHC) is committed to maintaining a respectful environment which upholds the safety, privacy and modesty of all our players. The purpose of this policy is to outline dressing room etiquette, parental presence in dressing rooms and the use of our gender equity change rooms.

### Definitions

- Age classification groups:
  - U7 (Mite) – ages 4-6
  - U9 (Novice) – ages 7-8
  - U11 (Atom) – ages 9-10
  - U13 (Peewee) – ages 11-12
  - U15 (Bantam) – ages 13-14
  - U17 (Midget) – ages 15-16
  - U21 (Juvenile) – ages 17-20
- Gender chaperone: a designated parent of a team (approved by the coaching staff) that accompanies players needing to change in the gender equity change rooms.
- Gender equity change rooms: dressing rooms that are designated for a specific gender to change in when they are the minority gender on their team.

### Policy/Procedure

#### Dressing Etiquette

All players, parents and coaches are expected to display a high level of respectfulness to the privacy of other players changing within the same dressing room. Any player who intentionally exposes themselves in a dressing room may face a suspension from their team and any other sanctions warranted by Hockey Operations.

#### Music Use

The use of music and audio within dressing rooms must comply with the standards outlined in the **RCHC - Music Policy**. All players, coaches, and team staff are expected to ensure that any music or media played is appropriate, respectful, and consistent with club expectations. Coaches retain full discretion over the use of music in dressing rooms and may restrict or prohibit its use at any time.

#### **U7 (Mite), U9 (Novice) and U11 (Atom) Age Classification Groups**

All players are required to come to the arena dressed in suitable undergarments so that there is no need to expose any sensitive areas of their body while they don their hockey equipment and garments.



Please be aware that RCHC defines suitable undergarments as wearing gym shorts or long underwear and a t-shirt.

Similarly, when removing hockey equipment and garments, players should, at all times, remain in their undergarments (gym shorts/long underwear and t-shirt). If for some reason a player needs to undress beyond their undergarments, they are required to do so within a private toilet stall or other enclosed area. Under no circumstances should any player undress past their undergarments while in the main dressing area and/or within the immediate presence of teammates, coaches or parents. If, at any time, a player feels the need to change in a private stall they are encouraged to do so.

### ***U13 (Peewee), U15 (Bantam), U17 (Midget) and U21 (Juvenile) Age Classification Groups***

Any player who needs to undress past their undergarments should do so in a private toilet stall or discreetly at the enclosed shower area of the change rooms. Players are prohibited from undressing past their undergarments in the main dressing room area and should be mindful and conscientious of how their undressing may impact those around them.

### **Parental Assistance**

Parents/Guardians are welcome to enter team dressing rooms to assist their children in donning their hockey equipment and garments for the following age classification groups:

- U7 (Mite) – ages 4-6
- U9 (Novice) – ages 7-8
- U11 (Atom) – ages 9-10

Parents/Guardians are prohibited from entering team dressing rooms for children for the following age classification groups:

- U13 (Peewee) – ages 11-12
- U15 (Bantam) – ages 13-14
- U17 (Midget) – ages 15-16
- U21 (Juvenile) – ages 17-20

Should any children in the U13 (Peewee), U15 (Bantam), U17 (Midget) or U21 (Juvenile) age classification groups need parental assistance in donning/doffing their equipment and/or garments they should dress at home prior to coming to the arena or change once they get home.

### **Gender Equity Change Rooms**

Children in the U7 (Mite), U9 (Novice) and U11 (Atom) age classification groups utilize a co-ed dressing room for all players on the team.

Children in the minority gender within their team in the U13 (Peewee), U15 (Bantam), U17 (Midget) or U21 (Juvenile) age classification groups must dress in RCHC's designated gender equity change rooms. Each team must designate a 'gender chaperone' to supervise any children who require the use



of the gender equity change rooms. Please be aware that players from various teams and age classifications groups may be using the gender equity change rooms at the same time. As such, parents/guardians are prohibited from entering gender equity change rooms to ensure we maintain a private and respectful environment for all players to dress in.

## **Social Integration**

Promoting camaraderie and team-bonding are important elements of the hockey experience. As such, it is vital that all players be given an equal opportunity to engage in all team related activities while having their safety, privacy and modesty protected. In all instances, coaches must ensure that each gender of players have equal access to team related activities.

Children who need to make use of the gender equity change rooms may enter their team's dressing room ten (10) minutes prior to ice time in order to receive instructions and encouragement from their coaches and teammates. By this time, all children in the main team dressing room must be fully dressed for the game or practice. If a child arrives late and the entire team has congregated in the main dressing area they must get changed in the dressing room's toilet stall.

At the conclusion of the game or practice, teams should congregate in their main dressing room for post-game/practice discussions, etc. At this time, no players should begin undressing with the exception of removing gloves, helmets and skates. When discussions or other team-related activities have ended, the minority represented gender shall depart and proceed to the gender equity change room to finish undressing. The gender in the majority shall not begin undressing until the departure of the minority represented gender.