

Locker Rooms and Changing Areas

Athletes are particularly vulnerable in locker rooms/changing areas and restrooms due to various stages of dress/undress and because they are less supervised than at many other times. Athlete-to-athlete problems, misconduct, bullying, harassment and hazing may occur when a coach or other responsible adult is not in a position to observe. Adherence to a locker room/changing area policy enhances privacy and reduces the likelihood of misconduct.

As part of U.S. Figure Skating's commitment to safety, U.S. Figure Skating now requires all member clubs and programs to publish and post locker room/changing area policies specific to the facilities and distribute them to parents and guardians of all minor participants and members.

Clubs shall include the following information in their policy:

- Procedures for supervising and monitoring locker rooms and changing areas
- Permission or prohibition for parents/guardians to be in the locker rooms
- Prohibited conduct, including at least all forms of abuse and misconduct prohibited by

U.S. Figure Skating

- Specific policies regarding the use of mobile digital devices (e.g. mobile phones) and prohibiting the use of all recording and photographic devices

Co-Ed Locker Rooms

If the club activity or event consists of both female and male participants, both female and male privacy rights must be given consideration and appropriate locker room and changing arrangements made. Where possible, member clubs and programs should have female and male skaters dress/undress in separate locker rooms. If separate locker rooms are not available, the skaters will take turns using the locker room to change or use the appropriate restroom within the facility.

Locker rooms used for warm-up and that are intended to be co-ed will be labeled as such and require that the door to be open at all times.

In the event of a medical situation or emergency, U.S. Figure Skating officials working on behalf of the event (such as doctor, physical therapist, chief referee) or emergency medical personnel will be permitted into the locker room/changing area.

The use of any recording and photographic devices inside a locker room/changing area is strictly prohibited.

Locker rooms and changing areas at U.S. Figure Skating competitive events are for athletes only, will be labeled with regard to specific use and where identified will be gender specific. An exception can be made for athletes 11 years old and younger that will allow for one parent of the same sex to assist their child immediately prior to and after their skating event(s). Synchronized and Theatre on Ice teams have separate locker room policies and should refer to the specific policies for teams on the SkateSafe webpage.

Any violation of this policy will be addressed under the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe Program and U.S. Figure Skating Ethics/Grievance procedures.

To view event specific locker room policies, please visit www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe.