

# YELLOWKNIFE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## MIXED-GENDER DRESSING ROOMS

### POLICY

Approved: 13 November, 2007

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Association is committed to the conduct of its programs and activities in a fair, safe and respectful manner. This policy is intended to describe the:

- Association policy with respect to the shared use of team dressing rooms; and
- Expected standard of behaviour for players and other Association members.

#### 2.0 SCOPE

This policy shall apply to:

- Players, coaches, other team personnel and parents;
- All Association programs and activities, regardless of location; and
- All hockey programs and activities in which Association members are participating, regardless of location.

#### 3.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Equity:** the Association firmly believes in accommodating the needs of both genders in our programs.

**Fairness:** player's wishes for safety, privacy, and modesty must be accommodated without compromising the camaraderie, social integration and bonding inherent in a team sport.

**Respect:** this policy is intended to provide a positive experience while providing a safe and respectful environment for our members.

**Transparency:** Decisions which affect the personal views and values of our members reflect the input of all affected parties.

#### 4.0 POLICY

- The Association recognizes that the limited number of dressing rooms in the Yellowknife Community Arena precludes a designated dressing room for female players. Accordingly, female players must put on their hockey gear in the "open area" at the entrance to the dressing rooms. The near-by washroom or storage room is available for changing under garments.
- In accordance with the Association policy on ice allocation, Peewee, Bantam and Midget-age teams, which generally include female players, will play (when possible) in the Multiplex which has change rooms for female players.
- Coaches shall ensure that both male and female players have equal access to pre and post game sessions and to all other team related activities in the dressing room.

- Players in the Initiation, Novice, Atom and Pee wee divisions may share a dressing room provided that the players arrive in full equipment or wear, at a minimum, gym shorts or long underwear as well as a full t-shirt. All under garments must be in good condition and without holes or tears.
- The following conditions shall apply to players in the Bantam and Midget divisions:
  - Females and males will change in separate rooms.
  - The dressing rooms assigned to each team shall be used by the males when they are the majority of the team members. Females shall change in the room designated for that purpose.
  - Both genders shall congregate in the team dressing room fully prepared to participate in the game or practice not more than 10 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time unless otherwise indicated by the coaching staff.
  - The female or male players shall wait in their assigned dressing room until called into the team dressing room by the coaching staff.
  - The lesser represented gender shall depart the team dressing room not more than 10 minutes after the game or practice unless otherwise indicated by the coaching staff.
  - The gender in the majority shall not begin changing (helmets, gloves and skates excepted) prior to the departure of the lesser represented gender.
  - When necessary, due to facility limitations, dressing and showering shall be done in shifts with the gender in the majority dressing and showering first. Once the room with shower facilities has been fully vacated the lesser represented gender may use the shower facilities.
- The coaching staff is responsible for informing the players and parents of this policy and ensuring its application throughout the season.
- Violations of this policy will be addressed through the Association Code of Conduct.
- Parents of Bantam and Midget-age players must obtain permission from the relevant coach before entering the dressing room of the opposite gender.