



WILD ACADEMY

CHANGING ROOM POLICY

At Widnes Wild Academy we promote a culture of Respect in everything we do this includes actions on and off the ice and includes changing room behaviour.

A Widnes Wild Academy player is tasked with respecting the game, the club, themselves and ultimately the team.

The aim of this policy is to provide coaches, managers, parents and players with guidance regarding conduct in changing rooms, whilst this list is not exhaustive; it is based on the EIHA guidance and will serve as a basic guide and will be reviewed annually by the club via the Executive Committee.

The policy maybe subject to immediate change to reflect a change in legislation or particular circumstances that may arise.

Where possible Widnes Wild Academy club will work towards ensuring there is a good gender balance between coaching and management staff.

The decency and dignity of all parties is of paramount importance and appropriate steps will be taken to ensure that there is compliance with this policy.

1. All children and young people (players) using changing rooms will be supervised by two (2) members of Club staff who have current enhanced DBS disclosures. This will usually be the manager and coach assigned to a team, but may include the club DSL, executive members or any other manager or coach, assigned by the nominated manager or coach for that team.
2. Supervision involves proactive presence at all times within changing rooms and around the arena. The responsible adults noted above should be aware of the the children's actions and whereabouts at all times.
3. Where possible Widnes Wild Academy will ensure that no more than 2 people and not less than 2 people take responsibility for the supervision of young people within changing rooms. Widnes Wild Academy recognises it's responsibility for safeguarding adults responsible for supervision and as such guidance on proactive supervision will be provided by the club DSL.
4. Separate facilities are made available for mixed gender teams. (In the case where separate facilities are not available, then each gender must be dressed to sweat-suit level before joining together).
5. Wherever possible mixed gender teams will be supervised by staff of the same gender. If this is not possible i.e. the only boy on the team with all female coaching and managing staff, steps will be taken to ensure that the young persons decency is considered. This will not preclude the individual from being a member of the team.
6. At Widnes Wild Academy steps will be taken to ensure a good gender balance within teams and clubs to facilitate effective changing room supervision.

7. Volunteers should not offer to do tasks of a personal nature which a young person could do for themselves, unless requested to do so by a parent/guardian, remembering that some young people may need assistance with tying laces, and fitting of helmets etc.
8. Parents do not have an automatic right to be present in the changing room.
9. At Widnes Wild Academy children from Under 11s upwards are asked to fasten their own skates and other equipment, whilst this is not an unreasonable expectation, there may be a need, due to special circumstances for the child to have a parent, guardian, coach or manager helping them to get dressed. Widnes Wild Academy will act reasonably in complying with this point.
10. If a young person is uncomfortable changing and showering, no pressure will be put on them to do so.
11. Adult staff (e.g. coaches, physios, match officials, other volunteers) will not change or shower at the same time using the same facility as the players.
12. Children will not be allowed to change to less than sweats in public places, such as skate hire areas or seating areas within arenas.
13. Whilst every effort will be made to accommodate safe changing spaces for young people it may be necessary for Widnes Wild Academy to erect temporary changing facilities. This should be in accordance with the points raised earlier.
14. In the event of a child having to return to the changing room through injury or exclusion from the game they should be accompanied by an appropriate adult nominated by the manager, coach or DSL. In the case that no other player is in the changing room this would usually be their parent or guardian. On return of any other player the parent or guardian must leave the changing room.
15. In the event of young people having to share a changing room with senior's careful consideration will be given to the process of both teams having to change. This will depend on who is on the ice first, the team managers will discuss the situation and take appropriate action ensuring the decency of all parties are taken into consideration.
16. In the case of mixed aged teams, (NIHL1/ NIHL2/REC/Women) the Club must have consent from parents/guardians that their child can share a changing room with adults. A responsible person will be allocated to take responsibility for ensuring that the welfare of the young person is addressed.
17. In line with EIHA guidance, phones and cameras are not allowed in the changing rooms at any time. Players should leave these with a parent or other adult.

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on EIHA website March 2015)

