

HSA LOCKER ROOM POLICY & CODE OF CONDUCT

PURPOSE

The following guidelines are designed to maintain personal privacy as well as reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas. While **HSA** strives to allow only athletes use of the locker rooms during practice time and meets, the actual physical layout of a facility may prevent such exclusive use. In situations where a changing area or restroom is shared with the general public, or with coaches and parents, it is likely others will use the space at practice times and during meets.

MONITORING

Coaches and staff make every effort to recognize when an athlete goes to the locker room during practice and if the athlete does not return in a timely fashion the coach will check on the athlete's whereabouts.

Parents are discouraged from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. If the athlete requires assistance with their suit or gear (for example, a child under the age of eight) or if an athlete's disability warrants assistance, it is recommended that the parent and athlete utilize a family bathroom facility located onsite. In the event a family facility is unavailable, the same-gender parent may enter the locker room to assist their athlete but may not delay or loiter in the locker room. **Applicable adults as defined by MAAPP are not to be alone in the locker room with any athlete.**

If the parent who needs to assist the athlete who is not the same gender as the child who is over the age of five and there are no family changing areas available at the facility, the parent needs to speak with a coach or head life guard about clearing the locker room for the gender of the parent to assist the child in the locker room. For example, if a father needs to assist his daughter, the male locker room needs to be cleared in order for the father to provide assistance to his daughter. If family changing areas are available, the opposite gender parent and child shall use the family changing area. **Applicable adults as defined by MAAPP are not to be alone in the locker room with any athlete.**

Coaches and staff may need to enter multi-use locker rooms during practice times and meets while athletes are in the locker rooms. In these situations, coaches and staff will not delay in the locker room and will not interact with the athletes while in the locker room unless the issue is a disciplinary matter which requires corrective action and removal of the athlete from using the locker room. For example, horseplay in the locker room by 12U boys whose coach enters to remove 12U boys from the locker room. **Applicable adults as defined by MAAPP are not to be alone in the locker room with any athlete.**

HSA does not continually monitor locker rooms and changing areas, but coaches and staff periodically sweep locker rooms to ensure no athlete remains on premise after the end of practice or a meet. Coaches and staff conduct these sweeps with female coaches checking the women's locker room and male coaches checking the men's locker room. **Applicable adults as defined by MAAPP are not to be alone in the locker room with any athlete.**

CONDUCT EXPECTED OF ALL SWIMMERS

HSA utilizes the Huntsville Aquatic Center as the primary training facility for practices and as a city-owned facility, the Aquatic Director has final say regarding what is and is not allowed or tolerated in the facility.

Regardless of the type of locker room or changing area being used, the use of audio or visual recording devices including a cellphone camera are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms under any circumstances. This prohibition applies to everyone in the Huntsville Aquatic Center facility and any other facility that **HSA** uses for training or swim meets during the time of such training or meets.

VIOLATION OF THE LOCKER ROOM POLICY

The coaching staff has the initial responsibility to respond to any athlete, volunteer, coach, or athlete's family for inappropriate behavior, whether the athlete is actively or passively involved in the infraction. Disciplinary action will be taken by athlete(s) of the coaching staff and an additional disciplinary panel in an appropriate manner with regard to:

1. The nature and severity of the violation
2. Any prior disciplinary actions with that athlete
3. The negative impact to others
4. The application of the locker room policy

I agree to abide by the above rules of conduct as set forth in this document and acknowledge that should I violate any provision, I will be subject to disciplinary action identified by this document.

Athlete Signature

Date

I agree to hold my athlete(s) accountable to the above rules of conduct as set forth in this document and acknowledge that should my athlete violate any provision, they will be subject to disciplinary action identified by this document.

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date

Coach Initials

Date