



Changing Room Policy

London Wayfarers HC

The aim of this policy is to provide coaches, managers, parents, players, officials and visitors with a clear understanding of the Club's stance on changing before and after matches and training sessions.

For the avoidance of doubt it should be noted that the Club has no control over the provision of changing facilities at away games, which means that some of the measures described in this policy may not be practical or possible. In such cases all parties should use common sense to apply the policy as best they can.

This policy is informed by best practice guidance from England Hockey. This list is not exhaustive and may be subject to change to reflect changes in legislation or particular circumstances that may arise.

GENERAL

- Players and teams should only use changing rooms that have been allocated to them.
- Adults working with young teams, including volunteers, coaches, umpires or staff, should not change or shower at the same time when using the same facility as young players.
- Mixed gender teams must have access to separate male and female changing rooms (or arrange to use them at different times).
- Adult trans or transgender players should not use the same changing facilities as under 18s unless there are separate cubicles. If this cannot be avoided due to the nature of the facility adults should come ready changed for their hockey activity. (Additional guidance provided in England Hockey's Trans or transgender hockey players – guidance for local hockey organisations document).
- If young people are uncomfortable changing or showering in public, no pressure should be placed on them to do so. Encourage them to do this at home.
- Neither children nor adults are permitted to change in public places, such as the clubhouse.

- Disabled players and their parents / carers should be involved in deciding how, if applicable, they wish to be assisted to change and ensure they provide full consent to any support or assistance required.
- The use of mobile phones, cameras and video recording devices in changing areas is expressly forbidden.

JUNIOR PLAYERS

- All players aged 12 and under should arrive in kit ready to play/train, and return home in their kit after training or matches. If changing is required (e.g. in the event of inclement weather), players must be supervised at all times in changing rooms by two members of staff/appropriate adults, of the same gender as the players (or by their parent/guardian if arriving late to/leaving early from the activity).
- JCEP (Junior Coach Education Programme) coaches (under 18) involved in running sessions for other young people should not change together with those they are coaching (they are in a position of trust) and should make alternative arrangements for changing (i.e. before / after other young people or change at home).

JUNIOR TEAMS

- Where possible/appropriate, team talks with junior teams should be held in open, public areas, in the presence of at least two appropriate/DBS-checked adults.
- If changing rooms are used as a de facto meeting room i.e. for team talks, the coach must be accompanied at all times by at least one other adult of the same gender as the team. Where practical the club will try to ensure there is a good gender balance between coaching and management staff to facilitate this policy in practice.

JUNIOR PLAYERS IN SENIOR TEAMS

- If adults and young people need to share a changing facility, the club must have consent from the parents that their child/children can share a changing room with adults in the club.
- If young players play for adult teams, they and their parents must be informed of the club's policy on changing arrangements.