



New Jersey Freeze, Inc
16 Aspen Drive
Randolph, NJ 07869
March 22, 2017

NJ Freeze 2018-2019 Locker Room Policy

Nothing is more important than the safety of our New Jersey Freeze players, both on and off the ice. Toward that goal, New Jersey Freeze maintains a Locker Room Policy that focuses on the safety of players before and after any on-ice event.

In addition to the development of our players and their enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is paramount. The NJ Freeze adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport guidelines to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse and other types of misconduct, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing. To help prevent abuse or misconduct from occurring in our locker rooms, we continue to enforce this Locker Room Policy. This Policy is designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms.

Aspen Ice in Randolph, NJ, provides locker rooms for our use. Each locker room has a restroom and shower area. NJ Freeze teams also travel to play games at other arenas, and therefore locker rooms, restrooms and shower facilities will vary from location to location. At arenas with which you are unfamiliar, parents should plan to have extra time and flexibility in making arrangements for their child to dress, undress and shower if desired.

Locker Room Monitoring

The presence of an adult in a locker room is critical to maintaining a safe and positive environment. USA Hockey reports that over the past five years more than half of all SafeSport incidents reported occur in locker rooms. In all but a few cases, there was no locker room monitor present. Following USA Hockey's lead, NJ Freeze will provide direct and regular monitoring of locker room areas occupied by an NJ Freeze team. Therefore, an NJ Freeze head coach or assistant coach will be in his/her team's locker room during periods of use. Only participants (coaches and players) and approved team personnel will be permitted in the locker room. This policy ensures that players are not engaging in inappropriate behaviors during their time in the locker room.



Parents in Locker Rooms

Except for players at the Mite and Squirt level we discourage parents from entering locker rooms unless truly necessary. If a player needs assistance with uniform or gear, if the player is or may be injured, or if a player's disability warrants assistance, then we ask that parents inform the coach beforehand that he or she will be helping the player. Naturally, with our youngest age groups it is necessary for parents to assist the players getting dressed. We encourage parents to teach their players as young as possible how to get dressed so they will learn as early as possible how to get dressed independently. In circumstances where parents are permitted in the locker room, coaches are permitted to ask that the parents leave for a short time before the game and for a short time after the game so that the coaches may address the players. As players get older, the coach may in his or her discretion prohibit parents from a locker room.

Mixed Gender Teams

Some of our teams consist of both male and female players. It is important that the privacy rights of all of our players are given consideration and appropriate arrangements made. Where possible, NJ Freeze will have the male and female players dress/undress in separate locker rooms and then convene in a single locker room before the game or team meeting. Once the game or practice is finished, the players may come to one locker room for a team meeting and then the male and female players shall proceed to separate locker rooms to undress and shower. If separate locker rooms are not available, then the players will take turns using the locker room to change. We understand that these arrangements may require that players arrive earlier or leave later to dress, but we believe that this is the most reasonable way to accommodate and respect all of our players.

Cell Phones and Other Mobile Recording Devices

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be taken outside of the locker room. Players violating this policy are subject to disciplinary action.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

NJ Freeze prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. NJ Freeze participants, employees and volunteers may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these locker room policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. To report any actual or suspected violations, contact Stephen Zaklukiewicz at Stephen@NJFreeze.com, email USA Hockey at SafeSport@usahockey.org or call 1-800-888-4656.

If you have any questions regarding this Locker Room Policy, please contact Stephen Zaklukiewicz at Stephen@NJFreeze.com