



## Dressing Room Policy

The Risk and Safety Director of Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) has stressed the need for supervision of dressing rooms while players are in attendance before, during and after games or practices. Due to the need to ensure player safety and reduce the potential for player injuries in the dressing room while changing, HEO has adopted the following policy to be followed by all Coaching staff during the hockey season.

Team Officials are responsible for the safety and welfare of their players at **ALL** times during any sanctioned event. This definitely includes while players are changing in the dressing rooms both prior to and after on-ice activities. HEO covers this repeatedly in all of our clinics, and it is specifically addressed in the Respect in Sport course, given that supervision is the single most effective method of prevention when it comes to conduct-based issues.

It is stressed to every volunteer to practice the “two-deep” method of supervision which means having at least 2 adults (who have taken Respect in Sport or Speak Out) providing supervision at all times during the sanctioned event. This not only protects the players, but also the Team Officials.

The NMHA has adopted this policy and will adhere to it for the hockey season. If an incident occurs and proper supervision was not provided, this may result in sanctions against the individuals involved up to and including suspension.