



MIDWEST BLACKBIRDS



Locker Room Protocol

The use of the locker room facility at all ice arenas, both home and away is a privilege bestowed upon our teams, not a right. Therefore, when using a locker room (as a player, coach and parent/guardian) Blackbirds insists we treat these facilities with respect. This is our home and we expect to have the ability to have our guests use a clean and functional facility while they are here. Coaches, players and parents/guardians are expected to pick up after themselves (i.e. tape, bottles, wrappers, etc.). The intentional destruction or vandalism of these facilities can result in the offending player or team losing their locker room privileges. If there is intentional damage to the facility, the responsible person(s) may face prosecution for Criminal Damage to Property.

The Blackbirds adheres to the State of Illinois/Indiana Compiled Statutes regarding eavesdropping violations (720 ILCS 5/14-2) and unlawful videotaping (720 ILCS 5/26-4). Therefore, **NO VIDEO EQUIPMENT WILL BE USED IN THE LOCKER ROOMS OF ANY RINK AT ANY TIME.** This will include cameras, video cameras, cell phones or any other media collecting format. It shall be the responsibility of the players and parents to ensure that these devices remain unused. Any intentional and unauthorized video taken within the confines of any locker room at any time shall be viewed as a Zero Tolerance Violation. Any unlawful video will be reviewed by the Blackbirds Supervisory Board and if warranted, the matter may be referred to Law Enforcement for formal criminal investigation and prosecution.

It shall be the policy of the Blackbirds that all players and coaches are in the locker room 10 minutes before taking the ice (game or practice) and for up to 15 minutes thereafter. During this period of time, no parents, siblings, relatives, friends, etc. shall be allowed in the locker room. This will give the coaching staff the necessary time to prepare/debrief before and after a game or practice. Any infraction of this policy will be viewed as a Zero Tolerance violation. Sanctions against the offending individual will be enforced by the Supervisory Board. The only exception to this is for MITES and SQUIRTS and only when a screened Team Official is present in the locker room.

A parent may assist players in these age divisions to prepare for practices or games. Parents of younger age division players are encouraged to help prepare their child and then leave. Wean your child of needing assistance as early as possible. If the only thing that they can't do is tie their skates then they can go outside the locker room to get them tightened or a coach can help them out. There's no reason for parents, siblings, other relatives and friends to be in the locker room. The locker room is for Players and Coaching Staff. Parents are not welcome in the locker room. Siblings are not welcome in the locker room. Sticks are not welcome in the locker room. Video and cellular phone camera's or any other media collecting format are not welcome in the locker room. Horseplay is not allowed in the locker room.

