



Vancouver Island
Amateur Hockey Association

INFORMATION BULLETIN # 2009-12-IN

November 3, 2009

TO: MHA Presidents, MHA Administrators/Registrars, MHA Team Officials

FROM: Mark Kenny, President

SUBJECT: Arena Etiquette and Team Supervision

Issues concerning Arena Etiquette and Team Supervision have been brought to our attention. The following is a reminder of common sense items and are part of the responsibilities of Team Officials. As ice is at a premium, no one can afford to lose any or be banned from an arena. Remember that playing hockey is a privilege, not a right.

Please take the time to discuss the following with your players:

1. Respect the Arena environment.

All teams should check with each facility's rules. Many rinks do not allow running up and down the bleacher stairs as warm-up. Do not assume it is allowable.

Respect the public areas of the arena. Minor Hockey is not the only users of these facilities and any adverse behavior on the part of players, coaches, parents, etc., whether unintentional or not, reflects badly on our sport.

Respect other users of the facilities such as figure skating groups, athletic teams, arena staff and the general public.

Ensure that you lock your dressing rooms to protect valuables during game times.

Check your dressing room when your team arrives and if there is an issue with damage and/or cleanliness, contact the arena facility attendants immediately. You do not want to be responsible for something done or left behind by the user before you.

Team officials should do the final dressing room inspection when the team is done. Leave the room in the condition you found it – clean.

2. Team Supervision

Players should be actively supervised at all times by having team officials in the dressing room or in close proximity to the room. Standing in the lobby pre-game is not considered supervision. Team officials, pre and post game, should be aware at all times what their players are doing. Hockey Canada stresses the importance of players being supervised at all times during team activities to help ensure a safe environment.

Monitor loud and inappropriate music (ie. language) from the dressing rooms. Tone both volume and language content out of consideration for others.

Behavior in public areas of arenas should be respectful of the community you are playing at. Your team is representing your own association and community.

Any complaints will be forwarded to VIAHA and the appropriate Association Presidents.