



Dressing Room & Supervision Policy



Purpose

The Calgary Axemen Lacrosse Club is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment. The locker room is a high-risk area; therefore, this policy ensures all interactions are open, observable, and justifiable by strictly following the [Coaching Association of Canada \(CAC\) Rule of Two](#).

The Rule of Two & Supervision

The "Rule of Two" means an adult is never alone with a minor athlete.

- **Arrival Times:** If coaches request players arrive early (e.g., 30–60 minutes prior), the Rule of Two takes effect the moment the first player arrives.
- **The "Two" Defined:** A minimum of two screened adults must be present.
- **The Witness Rule:** Both adults must be within earshot and view of the athletes at all times to ensure interactions remain "open and observable."
- **Game Ejections/Injury:** For U13 and lower, any player removed from a game (ejection or injury) must be accompanied to the dressing room by two responsible adults, one of whom must be a team bench staff member. A parent/guardian may be the second adult.

Screening Requirements

To remain practical for team operations, the club recognizes two levels of "screened" individuals:

Level	Required For	Requirements
Full Screening	Coaches, Managers, Trainers	Coaches: PIC with Vulnerable Sector Search (VSS), Respect in Sport (Activity Leader), NCCP Certification. Managers/Trainers: PIC with Vulnerable Sector Search (VSS)
Recruited Screening	Parents & Casual Volunteers	Respect in Sport (Parent Edition), Good Standing with the Club.

Note: A VSS is required for parents only if they take on a formal, recurring role (e.g., overnight tournament chaperone).



Co-ed & Gender-Specific Standards

The following standards ensure privacy and safety for all genders:

General Supervision

At least one screened adult present must be of the same gender as the athletes. For co-ed Teams, the Rule of Two requires at least one male and one female screened adult to be present.

Dressing Room Logistics by Age

- **U7 & U9:** Co-ed dressing rooms are permitted. Participants must arrive in full equipment or wear a minimum of a full t-shirt and team shorts (in good condition).
- **U11 to U17:** Females and males **must change in separate rooms**.
 - The "15-Minute Rule": Both genders may congregate in one room for pre-game talks no more than 15 minutes prior to floor time. For post-game talks, the lesser-represented gender must depart within 15 minutes after the session.
 - The majority gender shall **not** begin changing (except for helmets, gloves, and shoes) until the lesser-represented gender has departed.

Parental Access & Boundaries

- **U7, U9, & U11:** Parents are permitted in the room to assist their child with gear. Once the athlete is dressed, parents must leave. Post-game, parents may enter only **after** the coaching staff has finished addressing the team.
- **U13 to U17:** The locker room is a "Players and Screened Staff Only" zone. Parents are not permitted except for:
 1. A medical emergency.
 2. An explicit invitation from the coaching staff.

Technology & Prohibited Behavior

- **Recording Devices:** Use of mobile phones, cameras, or any recording devices (including PDAs) is **strictly prohibited** inside locker rooms.
- **Music:** Devices for music must be kept in a fixed location or bag where the camera is obscured.
- **Prohibited Behavior:** Bullying, harassment, "hazing," and "chirping" are forbidden. Use of smelling salts, tobacco, vaping, alcohol, or illegal drugs is strictly prohibited.
- **Vandalism:** Teams/individuals are financially responsible for any damage to facilities.

Travel & Tournaments

- **Hotel Rooms:** Coaches shall not enter an athlete's room unless accompanied by another screened adult.
- **Meetings:** Must be held in common areas (lobbies/conference rooms).



- **Carpooling:** Coaches/officials are prohibited from driving a single, non-related athlete alone. Use the "Rule of Three" (one adult, at least two athletes).

Reporting & Compliance

- **Non-Compliance:** Failure to adhere to the Rule of Two may result in coach suspension or removal.
- **Immediate Action:** If only one coach is available, they must wait in the hallway or public area until a second screened adult arrives.
- **Reporting:** Violations should be reported via the [Calgary Axemen Member Support & Reporting Hub](#) or to the [Division Coordinator](#).

FAQ Quick Reference

- **No Co-coach?**

Find a "Locker Room Monitor" (parent with Respect in Sport). If no one is available, prop the door wide open and stand in the hallway.

- **Private Meetings?**

Must be "Open and Observable"—held in the stands or a room with an open door and a second same-gender screened adult present.

- **Last Player?**

Two screened adults must remain at the entrance until the last player exits. Never be left alone with a single player.

