



NOHA DIGITAL DEVICES IN DRESSING ROOMS POLICY

| Date Created: | Committee: | Date Approved: |
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| February, 2024 | Safety & Risk Management | February, 2024 |

Purpose: To maintain a safe and respectful environment within the hockey dressing room, the Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA) implements this policy to prohibit the use of digital devices and any form of photography within the dressing room area. This policy is established in response to several incidents during the current season that have highlighted the need for such regulations. It is important to note that this policy is intended to supplement and be in addition to the current Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) policy regarding the prohibited use of digital devices.

Policy:

1. Cell Phone/Digital Device Usage:

- Players, coaches, staff, and any individuals entering the dressing room are strictly prohibited from using cell phones and digital devices within the dressing room area.
- Cell phones must be turned off or set to silent mode before entering the dressing room.

2. Photography and Recording:

- Photography, video recording, or any other form of audio-visual recording is strictly prohibited within the dressing room premises.
- This includes, but is not limited to, the use of smartphones, cameras, tablets, and any recording devices.

3. Over and Above OHF Policy:

- This policy is in addition to and will be over and above the current OHF policy regarding the prohibited use of digital devices. Any conflicts between this policy and the OHF policy will be resolved in favor of the more stringent regulation.

4. Consequences for Violations:

- Any individual found violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include, but is not limited to, verbal warnings, suspension from team activities, or expulsion from the association.
- Repeat offenses may result in more severe consequences, including permanent expulsion from the association.

6. Reporting Violations:

- Any member who becomes aware of a violation of this policy is encouraged to report it immediately to the team manager, coach, or another appropriate authority figure.

7. Implementation and Communication:

- This policy will be communicated to all players, coaches, staff, and parents/guardians at the beginning of the season and will be reinforced periodically.

8. Review of Policy:

- The NOHA reserves the right to review and update this policy as needed. Feedback from members and stakeholders will be considered in the revision process.