

LOCKER ROOM MONITORING POLICY

PURPOSE

The following guidelines are designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas.

FACILITIES

We practice at: Sumner High School, King County Aquatic Center, and Federal Way Community Center. These locations have a changing area that is shared with the general public. As such, there are likely to be people who are not associated with VAST in the changing area around the time of practice.

MONITORING

Coaches and staff make every effort to recognize when an athlete goes to the locker room or changing area during practice and, if they do not return in a timely fashion, we will check on the athlete's whereabouts. We discourage parents from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. In those instances, it is best if they use a private changing room when the facility has one. VAST has staggered practices, with different groups arriving and departing throughout the day. It is therefore not practical to constantly monitor locker rooms and changing areas over this extended course of time. While we do not post staff at the doors of the locker rooms and changing areas, when possible we will make occasional sweeps of these areas. Coaches conduct these sweeps, with women checking on female locker rooms, and men checking on male locker rooms.

USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER MOBILE RECORDING DEVICES

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras increase the risk for different forms of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas. The USA Swimming Athlete Protection Policies prohibit the use of such devices in the locker room or other changing area:
305.3 Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone camera, is not allowed in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms.

MISCONDUCT IN THE LOCKER ROOM

Should any misconduct occur in the locker room, consequences are at the discretion of the coaches and may include, but aren't limited to, verbal warnings, dismissal from practice, contacting parents, temporary suspension, and expulsion. Involved parties will be informed of the processes and range of potential consequences. The U.S. Center for SafeSport, USA Swimming and local law enforcement (if applicable) will be contacted

within 24 hours if a coach, parent, or swimmer violates the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements, the USA Swimming Code of Conduct, Athlete Protection Policy, or local laws.

1. Gathering Information: The appropriate individuals will contact those involved to ask questions about what happened. In addition, other witnesses may be contacted for more information.
2. Assessing Behavior: The behavior of the person(s) will be assessed using club policies and facility rules, USA Swimming Code of Conduct, USA Swimming Safe Sport policies, as well as applicable local and state laws.
3. Consequences will be given and disciplinary action will be taken, if appropriate. These consequences and disciplinary actions will be decided using the following general guidelines:
 1. Nature of the misconduct
 2. Severity of the misconduct
 3. Prior disciplinary actions
 4. Adverse effect of the misconduct
 5. Application of the Code of Conduct