



Policy on Electronic Devices in Facilities

Approved October 2020

1. Overview

- a) Cellphones and other electronic devices with recording capabilities (audio or video), have increased the risk of bullying, abuse and misconduct. The ability to take and share photos and videos without others' knowledge has raised concerns from Hockey PEI and its member associations.
- b) This policy refers to the use of "Electronic Devices", which can include, but is not limited to:
 - i. Cell phone
 - ii. Mobile device
 - iii. Camera
 - iv. Voice Recorder
 - v. Tablet
- c) This policy must be reviewed by coaches and team officials with their respective teams prior to beginning on-ice activities.

2. Usage Prohibited

- a) The use of any Electronic Device by Hockey PEI members is prohibited in any recreational facility dressing room, washroom, or shower, during any practice, game, or event that is sanctioned by Hockey PEI unless otherwise stated herein.

3. Exceptions

- a) Although the use of Electronic Devices is prohibited as stated above, Hockey PEI recognizes that there are special circumstances where the use of an Electronic Device may be practical:
 - i. It may be acceptable to take photographs or recordings in a locker room in such unique circumstances as a victory celebration, team party, etc., where all persons in the dressing room are appropriately dressed, have been advised that photographs or recordings are being taken, and consent.
 - ii. It may be acceptable for a team to have a designated coach or player to operate an Electronic Device for music playing purposes in the dressing room. The Electronic Device must be on airplane mode, if applicable, and only used for this purpose.
 - iii. In the event of an emergency.

4. Discipline

- a) The privacy and dignity of our players is first priority. Any incident involving the violation of another's personal privacy (e.g. the taking of unauthorized photos or videos) through the use of such device will result in immediate discipline to any persons involved.

- b) For 1st or 2nd violations that are considered “Minor” (e.g. using Electronic Device for text messaging, social media, etc.) as determined by the player’s Minor Hockey Association, Minor Hockey Associations will have the jurisdiction to enforce the discipline as outlined in Section 5.
- c) For 3rd or “Major” violations (e.g. bullying, harassment, crude photography or videotaping, etc.) as determined by the Discipline and Ethics Committee upon request for review by the player’s Minor Hockey Association, the Discipline and Ethics Committee shall have jurisdiction.

5. Violations

a) Athletes/Players:

- i. **1st Minor Violation:** After confirmation, the player shall be suspended from team activities such as regular season games, tournament and exhibition play for the next two (2) consecutive games or two (2) weeks of a season, whichever is greater. The player may not be in the dressing room or on the bench for these missed games during this time period. The player and their parents will meet with their respective Minor Hockey Association Discipline Committee or equivalent and Association Level Director to discuss future repercussions if the issue should persist.
- ii. **2nd Minor Violation:** After confirmation, the player shall be suspended from team activities such as regular season games, tournament and exhibition play for the next four (4) consecutive games or three (3) weeks of a season, whichever is greater. The player may not be in the dressing room or on the bench for these missed games during this time period. The player and their parents will meet with their respective Minor Hockey Association President, Association Level Director, and Hockey PEI Minor Council Level Director to discuss future repercussions.
- iii. **3rd Minor or Any Major Violation:** After confirmation, the player shall be suspended from team activities such as regular season games, tournament and exhibition play for no less than a period of sixty (60) days. The player may not be in the dressing room or on the bench for games missed during this time period. The matter will be directed to the Hockey PEI Discipline and Ethics Committee for review.

b) Coaches/Parents/ “Adult(s)”

- i. Considering the vulnerability of minors and the seriousness of an adult (parent, volunteer, etc.) using an Electronic Device which has the ability to take photos and recordings inside a dressing room, any violation of this Policy by an adult shall result in an indefinite suspension pending a hearing with the Hockey PEI Discipline and Ethics Committee to determine disciplinary action.

6. Recommended Practices for Coaches and Teams

- a) This policy greatly relies on the cooperation of minor hockey coaches and management and it will be the responsibility of each minor hockey team’s coaches and management to decide how they will enforce this policy in the dressing room, whether it be:

- i. Asking players to leave their phones at home, in the car, or with their parent(s)/guardian(s).
- ii. Collecting players' electronics at door of dressing room, storing them, and returning them as players leave.
- iii. Assigning one coach or player (e.g. captain, assistant captain, rotating player each week, etc.) to be in charge of the designated "music phone".