

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.

MONITORING

Miami Swimming Coaches and staff make every effort to recognize when an athlete goes to the locker room or changing area during practice and competition and, if they do not return in a timely fashion, we will check on the athlete's whereabouts. Only same gender coaches should enter the locker rooms. We discourage parents from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. In those instances, it should only be a same-sex parent. If this is necessary, parents should let the coach or administrator know about this in advance. If an athlete needs assistance with his or her uniform or gear (for example, a child under the age of eight), or an athlete's disability warrants assistance, then we ask that parents let the coach or an administrator know beforehand that he or she will be helping the athlete. Miami Swimming 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, coaches, parents, other adults inside or at the doors of the locker rooms and changing areas, we may make occasional sweeps of these areas.

- **Undress**

An unrelated Applicable Adult must not expose his or her breasts, buttocks, groin or genitals to a minor athlete under any circumstance. An unrelated Applicable Adult must not request an unrelated minor athlete to expose the minor athlete's breasts, buttocks, groin or genitals to the unrelated Applicable Adult under any circumstance.

- **One-on-one Interactions**

Except for athletes on the same team or athletes attending the same competition, at no time are unrelated Applicable Adults permitted to be alone with a minor athlete in a locker room or changing area, Locker Room except under emergency circumstances. If the organization is using a facility that only has a single locker room or changing area, separate times for use by Applicable Adults must be designated. Miami Swimming will make every effort must be made to recognize when a minor athlete goes to the locker room or changing area during practice and competition, and, if the minor athlete does not return in a timely fashion, to check on the minor athlete's whereabouts.

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. At ALL USA Swimming sanctioned meets, the CAMERA FREE ZONE is in effect. No person may use a camera or any other device capable of recording still or video images in the area behind the blocks, in the locker rooms, changing areas, showers or restrooms. Violators may be reported to law enforcement or other governmental authorities and/or may be barred from the facility during the sanctioned event. At ALL practices and USA Swimming Sanctioned events, changing into or out of swimsuits other than in the locker rooms or other designated areas is not appropriate and is prohibited.



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- **Potential issues and how to respond:**

If you receive a report that there is a suspicious person in the locker room, notify facility staff/security if you are in a shared use facility. If the facility does not have its own response procedure, you and another adult and/or facility security should go immediately to the locker room and confront this individual. Make sure all athletes in the locker room are safe and then determine why the individual is in the locker room. If the individual attempts to leave, follow him/her until you have determined there is no further threat and that no further action is necessary. Remember, you are not the police. Any hint that this person should not be in the locker room will likely warrant a call to the authorities. What if you get a report of a peer to peer incident in the locker room? Talk with all athletes involved to determine what has happened. It is important to involve parents/guardians and the coach in any discussions with athletes. Remind all involved of Article 304.3.7 and Article 304.3.8 (D) which addresses bullying and peer to peer abuse.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ACCEPTANCES, AND AGREEMENTS

All Miami Swimming members, team staff, and parents or legal guardians of minor team members are apprised in writing of this Locker Room Monitoring Policy and the attached USA Swimming Code of Conduct, USA Swimming Athlete Protection Policies, USA Swimming Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements, and USA Swimming Best Practice Guidelines. All team members, team staff, and parents or legal guardians of minor team members are further apprised in writing that the attached USA Swimming Code of Conduct, USA Swimming Athlete Protection Policies, USA Swimming Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements, and USA Swimming Best Practice Guidelines are hereby adopted by Miami Swimming as the Club's Code of Conduct, Club's Athlete Protection Policies, Club's Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements, and Club's Best Practice Guidelines and that each is hereby incorporated and made a part of this Locker Room Monitoring Policy by reference. The signature of a team member or the signature of a minor team member's parent or legal guardian on the attached "Acknowledgement, Acceptance, and Agreement" form constitutes acknowledgement, acceptance, understanding, and unconditional agreement to comply with the stipulations of this Locker Room Monitoring Policy and the attached Code of Conduct, Athlete Protection Policies, Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements, and Best Practice Guidelines.

VIOLATIONS

The Miami Swimming Head Coach or his/her designee shall make a written report of locker room monitoring policy, code of conduct, athlete protection policies, sexual misconduct reporting, or best practice guideline violations to the appropriate club or LSC leadership and the parent or legal guardian of any affected minor athlete.

Failure to comply with the Miami Swimming Code of Conduct, Athlete Protection Policies, Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements, Best Practice Guidelines, and Locker Room Monitoring Policy as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action. Such discipline may include, but may not be limited to:

- i. Dismissal from the trip and immediate return home at the athlete's expense;
- ii. Disqualification from one or more events, or all events of competition;
- iii. Disqualification from future team travel meets;
- iv. Financial penalties;
- v. Dismissal from the team; and/or
- vi. Proceedings for a USA Swimming National Board of Review.



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