

## **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**

The following is a description of our practice and competition facilities to allow athletes and their families to plan their use:

We practice at: Saint Viator HS, Harper College, Elk Grove HS and Recreation Park

These locations have men's and women's Locker rooms designated for athletes to change.

*Harper has a changing area that is shared with the college athletes. As such, there are likely to be people who are not associated with Alligator Aquatics in the changing area around the time of practice. Our swimmers are expected to change quickly and move through the locker room in a swift manner. There are private shower stalls and enclosed toilet areas where the athletes can have privacy as needed.*

*Viator, Elk Grove and Recreation Park have changing area's that are used by other individuals at the same time we are there, however, we are the main users of the locker rooms, during our practice time, therefore, there is limited traffic, outside of our swimmers. The shower area and changing area are open areas. They do have closed toilet stalls where athletes can have privacy as needed.*

### **MONITORING**

#### **General Policy Considerations**

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. We do so by opening the door and speaking loudly in through the door. We do not enter unless there is an emergency. If we have to make a locker room check, we would go through in 2's while announcing ourselves. If only one coach is available, they will make a loud announcement that they need to come in the locker room, give time for a reply, and then go about the task they need to accomplish.

We do not allow parents to enter the 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. They must announce themselves and limit their time in the locker room to a minimum.

If an athlete needs assistance with his or her suit (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, and should do so in the most inconspicuous area of the locker room they can find.

Alligator Aquatics has staggered practices, with different groups arriving and departing throughout the day and evenings. 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, coach, parent or other adult inside or at the doors of the locker rooms and changing areas, we do make occasional sweeps of these areas. We do monitor the locker rooms through communication from the door and, if necessary, with women checking on female locker rooms, and men checking on male locker rooms, we will go through making our presence known – preferably in 2's.

#### **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.*