DRESSING ROOM GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIALS

The dressing rooms for officials are usually quite small. In cases this room may serve more than one function. Officials should not change in dressing rooms occupied by players. It is important that officials have a dedicated space for changing and that the following guidelines are adhered to.

GUIDELINES RELATED TO DRESSING ROOMS:

- ➢ Any inappropriate behavior in the dressing room must be reported to a supervisor or someone who can help. This could include your local Referee-in-Chief, arena staff, or someone you can trust.

- ➢ When male and female officials work together, it is never appropriate to change in the same room at the same time. One gender should dress first while the other waits outside the dressing room; then vice versa.

- ➢ Once both genders are fully dressed, they can share the room in preparation for the competition, but leave the door open.

- ➢ Only officials and their supervisors should be allowed in the officials' room.

- ➢ If two minors of different genders are in the same room at the same time there should be a third person present. This third person may be a parent or another official. In this situation, it is acceptable for a person other than an official or a supervisor in the room.

- ➢ If there is one adult with a minor, there should be a third person present. This third person may be a parent or another official. In this situation, it is acceptable for a person other than an official or a supervisor in the room.

Hockey Canada's "Shared Respect Initiative" is designed to make the game more fun for all participants. It specifically targets the problem of abuse of officials, which is the main reason for officials leaving the game, but it applies to all participants – players, coaches, parents and officials. The loss of a player, official or coach, due to abuse hurts the entire game. Reducing the level of abuse will go a long way in achieving the goal of returning the fun to the game for all participants. Respect for the game, the participants and the officials' is key!