



CHANGING ROOM POLICY

Children and young people under the age of 18 must be appropriately supervised when using changing facilities. The level of supervision required will depend on the age, number and needs of participants, the design of the facilities and a suitable risk assessment. Supervision arrangements must ensure the safety, privacy and dignity of all young people at all times.

Adults working with young teams, including coaches, volunteers, officials or staff, must not change or shower at the same time as children or young people when using the same changing facilities. Where facilities are shared, appropriate arrangements must be made to ensure privacy and safeguarding, such as using separate changing rooms or changing at different times.

Where mixed-gender teams are participating in club activities, suitable changing arrangements must be provided to ensure privacy, dignity and safeguarding for all players. This should include access to separate male and female changing rooms, or the use of the same facilities at different times. No individual should be placed under pressure to change or shower in shared facilities.

Where children or young people play in adult teams, both the young person and their parents or carers must be informed in advance of the club's changing room arrangements. No young person should be pressured to change or shower in shared facilities, and suitable alternative arrangements should be supported where requested, such as changing separately or changing at home.

Where young leaders or volunteers under the age of 18 are involved in delivering sessions or supporting teams, they must not change with other children or young people, as they are considered to be in a position of trust. Alternative arrangements should be made, such as changing separately, before or after sessions, or changing at home.

Where the club has players with disabilities, the individual player and their parents or



carers should be involved in deciding how any changing or personal support needs are managed. Any assistance provided must be based on informed consent and carried out in a way that respects the dignity and privacy of the individual.

If adults and young people need to share a changing facility, the club must have consent from the parents that their child/children can share a changing room with adults in the club.

Any concerns relating to behaviour, supervision or safeguarding within changing rooms must be reported immediately in line with the club's Safeguarding Policy and England Hockey SafeGuarding and Reporting Procedures.

Dated April 2026 by Richmond Hockey Club Committee