

## **PURPOSE**

# **FIRESTONE AKRON SWIM TEAM'S LOCKER ROOM MONITORING POLICY**

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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:

1. Firestone High School Natatorium. This location has a changing area and locker room dedicated to our swimmers.
2. Akron University Student Recreation & Wellness Center. This location has a changing area that is shared with the entire Akron University Student Recreation & Wellness Center. As such, there are likely to be people who are not associated with FAST in the changing area around the time of practice.

## **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.

Parents are not permitted to enter 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 must 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. We encourage swimmers to come dressed and ready for practice.

## **Policy**

FAST 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 or coaches inside or at the doors of the locker rooms and changing areas, we do make occasional sweeps of these areas. Staff and coaches conduct these sweeps, with women checking on female locker rooms, and men checking on male locker rooms.

## **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.*

## **REPORTING A LOCKER ROOM INCIDENT**

Should an incident occur in the locker room, the following steps should be followed:

### **Medical Emergency**

1. Notify a coach or administrator immediately of the any incident involving an injury or medical emergency.
  - a. The coach or administrator will immediately make sure the involved party/parties are safe and provide medical assistance as needed. This includes calling emergency services if necessary and notifying the parent/guardian of the injured party.

### **Bullying**

1. Notify a coach or administrator immediately of the any incident involving any form of bullying witnessed directly or indirectly.
  - a. The coach or administrator will ensure the safety of the involved parties.
  - b. The coach or administrator will gather facts about the incident.
  - c. The coach or administrator will address the bullying behavior immediately or in a timely manner.
  - d. Parents of the involved parties will be notified should the bullying behavior continue.

### **Cellphone/Inappropriate Photography Usage**

1. Notify a coach or administrator immediately of the any incident involving inappropriate photography usage.
  - a. The coach or administrator will ensure the safety of the involved parties.
  - b. Parents of the involved parties will be notified.
  - c. A meeting will take place with the coaches, parents, Safe Sport representative, and children involved in the incident.
  - d. Disciplinary actions and appropriate authorities notified should they be deemed necessary.
  - e. A report made to Safe Sport if deemed necessary.

### **Inappropriate Sexual Advances/Assault Amongst Minors**

1. Notify a coach or administrator immediately of the any incident involving inappropriate sexual advances/assault.
  - a. The coach or administrator will ensure the safety of the involved parties.
  - b. Parents of the involved parties will be notified.
  - c. Appropriate authorities will be notified.
  - d. A report made to Safe Sport.

### **Incidents Involving Coaches or Administrators**

1. Notify the Safe Sport Representative a member of the FAST board.
  - a. Member notified will gather facts from the child and/or parent reporting the incident.

b. Member will report the incident to the appropriate authorities or address the situation themselves if deemed appropriate.

c. Incident will be reported to Safe Sport should it be deemed necessary.