



## **Hello Parents and Rochester Figure Skating Club (RFSC) Skaters!**

We would like to take a moment to share some very important information on locker rooms for sanctioned events like the upcoming Hiawathaland competition and the RFSC Ice show this spring.

Of course, as many of you know there have been huge changes in locker room management at sanctioned events due to SafeSport. If you are not aware of SafeSport I would encourage you to read more about SafeSport by clicking the resource links at the bottom of this email.

To summarize, U.S. Figure Skating strives to provide a safe environment for its members that is free of misconduct and harassment. The association will not tolerate or condone any form of harassment or misconduct of any of its members including athletes, coaches, officials, directors, employees, parents, volunteers or any other persons while they are participating in or preparing for a figure skating activity or event conducted under the auspices of U.S. Figure Skating. All forms of misconduct are unacceptable and in direct conflict with U.S. Figure Skating rules.

It is important that all U.S. Figure Skating clubs follow all SafeSport guidelines to most importantly keep our skaters safe but also so that the club can continue to offer sanctioned events like the annual Ice Show and competitions.

No one will be allowed in the locker room or locker room hallway before, during or after sanctioned events without prior authorization and an event badge/lanyard. See items below for details.

Here are the important highlights as they pertain to our RFSC sanctioned events and the locker rooms:

1. We will have a locker room monitor at all times during sanctioned events.
2. No adults (18 or older) are allowed in the youth locker rooms.
3. SafeSport does allow for exceptions for children under the age of 11 that require additional assistance in the locker room by a parent or guardian of the same sex. If you believe that your skater will require an exception then you can contact the RFSC SafeSport Chair. You may also request an exception at the Competition registration table, stop by the SafeSport table at ice show picture day, or you can request an exception at the locker room monitor table during ice show rehearsals. Anyone with an exception will be issued a badge/lanyard. If you will be in the locker room with your child your lanyard should be clearly visible at all times. Adults with lanyards that have been granted an exception to enter the locker room should limit the time they spend in the locker room to assisting their child and then exiting the locker room. Adults should also make every effort to avoid being the only adult in a youth locker room.
4. The locker room monitors will not let any adult pass without this EXCEPTION lanyard. Since this is a new procedure that none of us are used to, it has the potential to create a fair amount of stress for everyone involved. Please respect the locker room monitors - they are parents just like the rest of us and they are just trying to ensure a) we have safe locker rooms, and b) we follow the SafeSport policies and continue to be able to hold ice shows and competitions.

5. Adults (coaches, guest skaters and any other adult participating in the show that is 18 and over will have their own designated locker rooms).
6. As always, there will be a locker room designated for male skaters.
7. For the Ice Show select RFSC skaters will utilize the RFSC Member locker room. This locker room is to only be used by the current RFSC skaters who have been assigned to the locker room by the Ice Show committee. No other RFSC members, past members, family members, or friends should enter the locker room at any time during the Ice Show. RFSC members who rent a locker will need to remember to remove their skates from their lockers before this locker room is utilized for the show.
8. Teams also participate in the annual Ice Show and competition and are expected to follow the U.S. Figure Skating Team Locker Room policy. The team coach, team manager, one additional team service personnel and team athletes participating in the ice show are allowed in the Locker rooms/changing area. There should always be two adults in the locker room at all times. No adult is to ever be in the locker room alone with youth skaters.

It is also very important that all skaters, parents, coaches, team managers, and family and friends follow the no photography/video rules regarding the Locker Room/Changing Area. Per the United States Figure Skating Locker Room/Changing Area policy the use of any recording or photographic devices inside a locker room/changing area is strictly prohibited. Failing to follow this policy would result in removal from the locker room.

Thank you in helping to get this new procedure incorporated into our ice show. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Fawn Hangge, Rochester Figure Skating Club SafeSport Chair.

**Fawn Hangge – RFSC SafeSport Chair, [fhangge@rochesterfsc.org](mailto:fhangge@rochesterfsc.org)**

**John Kappler – RFSC President**

**Tim Rinkel – Ice Show Chair**

**Carrie Wise – Ice Show Chair**

**SafeSport References:** <https://www.usfigureskating.org/safesport>

**SafeSport Handbook Link -**

[https://www.usfigureskating.org/sites/default/files/media-files/U.S.%20Figure%20Skating%20SafeSport%20Handbook\\_2.pdf](https://www.usfigureskating.org/sites/default/files/media-files/U.S.%20Figure%20Skating%20SafeSport%20Handbook_2.pdf)

**SafeSport Locker Room Policies Link -**

<https://usfigureskating.org/sites/default/files/media-files/Locker%20Room%20and%20Changing%20Area.pdf>