



Hello Parents and Rochester Figure Skating Club (RFSC) Learn2Skate Skaters -

We would like to take a moment to share some very important information on locker rooms/changing areas for sanctioned events like the upcoming Hiawathaland Competition and the RFSC Ice Show this spring.

As many of you likely already know there have been huge changes in locker room management at sanctioned figure skating events due to SafeSport. If you are not familiar with SafeSport I would encourage you to read more by clicking on the resource links at the end 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 our club can continue to offer sanctioned events like the annual Ice Show and competitions.

The Learn2Skate Ice Show numbers primarily get ready in the gym. Below you will find some important highlights as they pertain to the Learn2Skate changing area as well as Rec Center locker rooms for the ice show.

1. Please bring your Learn2Skate skater to **ALL** rehearsals and show performances completely dressed in costume. There will be a designated place for each show number for skaters to put skates on and off before and after the performance. Skaters should **NOT** be getting dressed or undressed in the open gym area. If skaters need a dressing room they should use the rest rooms or ask an ice show volunteer where there is a place to change.
2. There will be locker room and changing area monitors present at all times during show rehearsals and during all performances. These monitors are adult volunteers of the club who have been SafeSport certified through U.S. Figure Skating.
3. Adults are allowed in the Learn2Skate Gym area with their skaters. However, it is important to understand that no adults (18 or older) are allowed in the Rec Center locker rooms or locker room hallway without receiving an exception.
4. 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 or by stopping by the SafeSport table at picture day. You can also request an exception at the locker room monitor table during ice

show rehearsals. Please note anyone with an exception will be issued a 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. NOTE: Exceptions are only required if your skater will be in an actual Locker Room. If your skater uses the Gym to get ready for the ice show no exception will be required.

5. Adults (coaches, volunteers, guest skaters and any other adult participating in the show that is 18 and over) will have their own designated locker room(s).
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. The team reference in the SafeSport policy refers to the Synchro and Theater on Ice teams. The Rochester Figure Skating teams will use a Rec Center locker room for the ice show. The team coach, team manager, one additional team service personnel and team athletes participating in the ice show are allowed in the locker room/changing area. No parents without an approved exception will be allowed in the team locker room. There should always be two approved adults in the locker room at all times. No adult is to ever be in the locker room alone with youth skaters.

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

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

SafeSport Locker Room Policies Link -

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