

Monday, December 26th, 2011

Ray Mensour
Manager of Arenas
City of Greater Sudbury
240 Elgin St
Sudbury, Ontario
P3E 3N6

Subject: Girls Dressing Room / Hockey Canada Room Policy

Mr. Mensour,

We have been discussing the issue of girls change rooms for some time now in Coniston. I am aware that several parents, players and coaches have expressed concerns to you in writing as well as in telephone conversations.

When it comes to the city adopting the Hockey Canada policy we do not object. However we do not understand how implementing this policy helps with the problem at hand. Seeing that all local hockey associations are governed by the NOHA, a division of Hockey Canada, we are all aware of this policy. The only exception would be playground hockey.

The policy unfortunately does not address the problem at hand. The problem is not whether or not the girls change with the boys. It is simply that we do not have an adequate room for the girls to change in. We do believe that a fairly easy turn key solution would be to have a designated dressing room for the girls to use. The one that we have now has become too small and does not have proper facilities. A room in the arena is currently being used by a user group that only uses the ice an hour and a half per week. Would it not be beneficial to all groups if this room became accessible to all the young ladies who play at the Toe Blake Arena? A second, more long term solution might be to build a second room in the same area as the old timers' room and make both of these accessible to all groups. The arena would then grow from four rooms to six rooms. Allowing for one team to be at the back of the arena and the other to be in the hall where all the rooms are currently located. It would alleviate any potential problems the hallway could create with two opposing teams.

We look forward to working together in helping rectify this problem and would like to thank you for your attention to this matter.

Pete Thibeault
President
Coniston Minor Hockey