



## Changing Room Policy

Astley & Tyldesley Cricket Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all participants in cricket. This includes ensuring that changing rooms and showering areas are safe, inclusive, and respectful environments. This policy outlines expectations and procedures to protect children, young people, and adults when using these facilities during cricket activities.

This policy applies to all individuals associated with Astley & Tyldesley CC, including but not limited to: all children and young people under 18, adults at risk, parents, legal guardians, coaches, volunteers, all clubs, teams and organisations affiliated with or supported by Astley & Tyldesley CC.

The policy is built on the club's behaviour expectations of good and decent people treating each other with respect and dignity regardless of age or gender.

- Parents/carers, coaches, team managers and volunteers should be aware that there are circumstances where junior players may find themselves changing in facilities where adults are present in the area.
- Cricket is unusual in that children play, compete, practice, train and socialise amongst adults. We all have a duty of care to ensure risks are minimised by implementing the following procedures.
- While groups of children are using changing facilities, coaches, other volunteers or adult players must not enter unless absolutely necessary.
- Signage should be used to indicate when the changing room is in use by children and organized "time periods" should be agreed for when children are changing.
- Children are encouraged to arrive and leave in their playing kit and are not required to change/shower at the ground. Where possible, separate facilities should be available for children to change/shower in a different location to adults, if this isn't possible then adults and children should change at different times.
- It is recognised that some 16- and 17-year-olds may wish to change/shower alongside their adult team mates in communal changing rooms. Such a situation should be agreed in advance with the Club Safeguarding Officer, the child and the parent/carer - it is essential that no pressure is applied for a child to make any particular choice.

- Mobile phones or any other equipment capable of capturing still or moving images should not be used in the changing room when people are changing
- It is important to note that the taking of images of adults and children in a public place without consent is often unwelcomed. 'Targeted' taking of images without an individual's consent or where an individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy (such as a changing facility) could constitute a criminal offence. Any individual taking an indecent image of a child commits a child sexual offence.

### Mixed Gender teams

Mixed gender teams must always try to have separate and clearly signed changing facilities. If this is not possible, players should have a specific time allocated to using the changing facilities, based on their gender, and this should be strictly adhered to.

Remember the 'Rule of Two', giving particular consideration to the gender of those using the facilities when deciding who the most appropriate persons are to enter. *Such access should be announced verbally before entering.*

### Reporting and Responding to Concerns

Any concerns about behaviour in changing or showering areas must be reported immediately to the Club Safeguarding Officer. Allegations or breaches will be taken seriously and responded to in line with ECB safeguarding procedures.

If an adult or person of different gender enters a changing room in error then they should remove themselves with apologies immediately and report their error to the captain and team manager who should take it to the clubs safeguarding officer.

### Responsibilities of club captains and team managers

Ensure the policy is communicated to all relevant individuals, including children, parents and / legal guardians and staff. Display signage in changing areas to reinforce safe behaviour and expectations.

### Responsibility of parents

When completing their child's signing on form parents agree to reading and understanding all of Astley & Tyldesley CC policies. Whilst there are some expectations of captains, coaches and team managers in regard to changing spaces it is the responsibility of parents to ensure their child understands the expectations of them.

