



Wey Kayak Club: Changing Room Policy

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To be reviewed: 01/07/23

Here at Wey Kayak Club, we have gender specific changing rooms as well as disabled changing rooms and toilets. However, the following policy has been put in place to protect adults and U18 using our changing facilities.

This guidance should be followed by all members when using the changing facilities at the Club:

- The Changing Room Policy is visible at all times on the Welfare Officer's pin board in the entrance hall and the contact details of the club welfare officers are clearly advertised.
- Members have a duty of care to report concerns or breaches of the policy to the club welfare officers
- Parents of U18s know and agree to the Changing Room Policy when joining the club/renewing membership and are aware they are of mixed age group use
- Where possible, there should not be a time when one adult is alone in the changing room where U18's are present and vice versa. There should not be a time where an U18 is alone in the changing room when there are adults present.
- When U18s are present in the changing rooms, adult members and mature, (U16+) members are advised to be respectful when showering. WKC recommends showering in underwear/shorts, in the cubicles where provided and if choosing to shower nude, walking back to your bag in a towel.
- Mobile phones, cameras or any other recording devices must not be used in changing rooms at any time.
- Parents of U18s are allowed to supervise their child (of the same gender) whilst in the changing rooms.
- Children under the age of 8 can change, when accompanied by their parent, in the changing room of the opposite gender.
- Children under the age of 10 must be supervised either by the presence of two adult members or their parent for their own safety.
- Members with a disability should be involved in discussion with coaches and their carers in deciding how, if applicable, they wish to be assisted to change and ensure they provide full consent to any support or assistance required. Independent disabled changing facilities are available for those that require it.

Remember, not everyone (adult or child), will be comfortable using group changing facilities. No pressure should ever be put on someone using the facilities and the option to change at home (or in some cases, disabled facility) should be understood. We do however recommend showering at the earliest opportunity when having been on the river to protect health.

When a school group or summer camp is running, the changing rooms are closed to all general members during the "changing period". This will be for 15 minutes before and after the session and a sign will be on the doors to notify temporary closure. We will endeavour to advertise when such groups are expected at least a week before they are scheduled at the Club and online in the WKC Newsletter, "The Catch". Be aware that the shower may be required at ad hoc times due to emergency need, such as capsizes.