



OWHA MUSIC POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear direction on the accepted use of music during activities within the Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA).

PRINCIPLES

The OWHA continues to take concrete steps to make hockey a more inclusive and welcoming environment. These steps include eliminating discriminatory language used by participants, parents, spectators, and others.

POLICY

Music is often a part of warm-up and dressing-room routines and other aspects of the game. This is a welcome component of expression and team building. The use of music, however, does need to consider other individuals who are using the facility as well as members of, and peers within, the team.

These considerations must include the volume level of the music as well as the content of the lyrics. Music that may contain language that could be offensive to some, including slurs that are racial, homophobic, misogynistic, or religious, as well as language that is obscene, indecent, profane or harassing is not permitted.

This policy is intended to provide directions on language that can be used in music played during activities within the OWHA including, but not limited to, team events, games, practices, warm-ups, off-ice training, social events, and any other environments in the OWHA.

- 1) Only versions of music that do not contain slurs that are racial, homophobic, misogynistic, or religious as well as language that is obscene, indecent, profane or harassing may be played in any group setting of two or more participants, or in areas where the music may be heard by others. Most music streaming services such as Apple Music and Spotify offer "Radio Edit Playlists" that could be used by Team Officials to direct their teams to the content of the music that is permitted to be played.
- 2) The volume level of any music, regardless of the content, should be such that it does not disturb others using the facility.
- 3) Supervision required by the OWHA Dressing Room Policy must be followed and adherence to this policy on the use of music is included in the supervision responsibilities.
- 4) Individual music choices can be played through personal listening devices such as earbuds or headphones.

Failure to comply with this policy will be subject to any penalties set out in the OWHA and Hockey Canada policies on dressing room supervision, Hockey Canada Playing Rule 11.4, and the Hockey Canada Safe Sport Policy, OWHA Regulations, and the OWHA Code of Conduct.

Should any facility being used by the OWHA for games or by a Team for practices or other on-ice activities have a policy on the playing of music that is stricter than this policy, then the facility's policy will prevail.