



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Concussion Management
Number	123.2
Status	First Reading
Adopted	August 20, 2012
Last Reviewed	May 21, 2018

Purpose

The Board recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of students participating in the District's athletic programs. This policy has been developed to provide guidance for prevention, detection and treatment of concussions sustained by students while participating in an athletic activity.

Definitions

Appropriate medical professional shall mean all of the following:[\[1\]](#)

1. A licensed physician who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
2. A licensed or certified health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and designated by a licensed physician trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
3. A licensed psychologist neuropsychologically trained in the evaluation and management of concussions or who has postdoctoral training in neuropsychology and specific training in the evaluation and management of concussions.

Athletic activity shall mean all of the following:[\[1\]](#)

1. Interscholastic athletics.[\[2\]](#)
2. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.[\[3\]](#)
3. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.[\[3\]](#)
4. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.[\[3\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the ~~acknowledgement of receipt and review of the Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet~~ [PIAA Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical](#)

Evaluation form, which includes a section related to Understanding of Risk of Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury. [4]

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy, which shall include protocols for concussion management.

Guidelines

The school shall hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for all competitors regarding concussions and other head injuries, the importance of proper concussion management, and how preseason baseline assessments can aid in the evaluation, management and recovery process. In addition to the student athletes, such meetings may include parents/guardians, coaches, other appropriate school officials, physicians, neuropsychologists, athletic trainers and physical therapists. [4]

Baseline Testing

All Wilson School District athletes will have access to pre-season baseline concussion testing. All participants in contact sports at Wilson will automatically receive a baseline concussion test. Contact sports include: Football, Field Hockey, Boys and Girls Soccer, Ice Hockey, Boys and Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Water Polo, Baseball, Softball, Boys and Girls Lacrosse and Wrestling. The Wilson Sports Medicine staff utilizes the SAC, Standard Assessment of Concussion, baseline testing tool and a Symptomology Checklist. The Wilson Sports Medicine staff also has access to the ImPact concussion testing tool. If a parent would like their athlete to receive an ImPact baseline test, they may make an appointment with a member of the Wilson Sports Medicine staff to schedule testing.

Removal From a contest ~~Play~~

A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student's team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, ~~licensed physical therapist or other official designated by the District~~ MD/DO, or a Neuropsychologist, exhibits signs or symptoms of a concussion or traumatic brain injury while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time. [4]

The Wilson School District has granted authority to all School or Team Physicians and all Licensed Athletic Trainers to determine if a student exhibits signs or symptoms of a concussion during an athletic contest or practice. All of these individuals have been trained in the evaluation and management of concussions. If the School or Team Physician or Licensed Athletic Trainer is not present at an athletic contest or practice, the coach must immediately remove a student from play who is exhibiting any of the signs or symptoms of a sports related concussion. The coach must inform one of the Wilson School District Licensed Athletic Trainers about the injured student so appropriate concussion evaluation can take place.

Once the School or Team Physician or any of the Licensed Athletic Trainers has determined that a Wilson School District student is exhibiting any of the signs or symptoms of a sports related concussion or other head injury during practice or competition, that student shall be immediately removed from play for the day and may not return to play until he/she is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an MD/DO or a Neuropsychologist. If a Wilson School District athlete is removed from play to be evaluated for possible concussion signs or symptoms, and the School or Team Physician or a Licensed Athletic Trainer determines that concussion signs or symptoms are not present, the student may be returned to play the same day.

Return to Play:

Return to Play indicates that a student had previous had a head injury that required removal from play.

The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an ~~appropriate medical professional~~ MD/DO or Neuropsychologist. ~~The~~

~~Board may designate a specific appropriate medical professional(s) to provide written clearance for return to participation.[4]~~

After written medical clearance is given by an MD/DO or Neuropsychologist, the student must begin a graduated, individualized Five Day Return-To-Play protocol supervised by a Wilson School District Licensed Athletic Trainer.

If an MD/DO or Neuropsychologist clears a concussed student for return to play prior to the completion of the Five Day Return-To-Play protocol, the concussed student must still complete the Five Day Return-To-Play protocol.

Training

All coaches shall annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity, complete a Pennsylvania Department of Health concussion management certification training course offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of State High School Associations or ~~another provider approved by the Department of Health~~ Sports Safety International. [4]

Penalties

A coach found in violation of the provisions of this policy related to removal from play and return to play shall be subject to the following penalties: [4].

1. For a **first** violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season.
2. For a **second** violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season and for the next season.
3. For a **third** violation, permanent suspension from coaching any athletic activity.

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| Legal | 1. 24 P.S. 5322 |
| | 2. Pol. 123 |
| | 3. Pol. 122 |
| | 4. 24 P.S. 5323 |
| | 24 P.S. 5321 et seq |

Last Modified by Mrs Regina Urso on May 14, 2018