



523. Concussion Management Policy

Date of Approval: 04/24/2024

PURPOSE

The aim of this policy is to collaborate with both the school and sports communities to disseminate information concerning the nature and risks associated with concussions. It involves entrusting coaches and officials with proper concussion training provided by the relevant governing body. Additionally, it empowers the removal of athletes from play if they exhibit or are suspected of having a concussion.

POLICY STATEMENT

Surad Academy coaches and referees/officials, whether paid or volunteer, shall undergo initial and ongoing training on concussions as presented below. Surad Academy will share to student athletes and their parents concussion information.

DEFINITIONS

- “Concussion” refers to a complex pathophysiological process affecting the brain, induced by traumatic biokinetic forces caused by a direct blow to either the head, face, or neck, or elsewhere on the body with an impulsive force transmitted to the head, that may involve the rapid onset of short-lived impairment of neurological function and clinical symptoms, loss of consciousness, or prolonged post-concussive symptoms.
- “Student athlete” means a young person through age 18 or under who actively participates in athletic activity, including a sport.
- “Student athletic activity” means any sport or other athletic activity related to competition, practice, or training exercises that are intended for student athletes and at which a coach or official is officially presiding.

POLICY

- Surad Academy shall provide information to all student athletes and their parents or guardians regarding the nature, risks, and effects of concussions. The information provided shall be consistent with current medical knowledge from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- The appropriate governing body shall provide school coaches and officials involved in student athletic activities training related to concussions.
- A coach, trainer, or school official shall remove a student athlete from participating in any student athletic activity when a concussion is exhibited or suspected. Once removed, the student athlete may not return to participation until he or she no longer exhibits symptoms of a concussion and is evaluated by a trained provider who gives written permission to return to participation.
- A coach, trainer, or school official will complete a student Injury Form for the health office when a concussion is exhibited or suspected.

PROCEDURE

1. Information regarding concussions will be made available at the start of each school year to student athletes and their parents or legal guardians, through website links or otherwise, and shall include the following:

- The nature and risks of concussions associated with the athletic activity;
- The signs, symptoms, and behaviors consistent with a concussion;
- The need to alert appropriate medical professionals for urgent diagnosis and treatment when a student athlete is suspected or observed to have received a concussion; and
- The need for a student athlete who sustains a concussion to follow proper medical direction and protocols for treatment and return to play.

2. If a parent of a student athlete must sign a consent form to allow participation in the student athletic activity, the form must include information about the nature and risks of concussions.

3. Each school coach and school official involved in student athletic activities must receive initial online training and online training at least once every three school years related to concussions through the “Concussion in Student Sports” online training program on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, as directed by the appropriate governing body of the sport.

References:

Minn. Stat. §121A.38 (Concussion Procedures)

Legal Reference:

Minn. Stat. §121A.38 (Concussion Procedures)