

Injury/Illness Management and Return to Play Policy

At The Birch Wathen Lenox School we take pride in following an "Athlete-Centered" plan of care to ensure a safe, healthy and healing environment for the student-athlete. At BWL it is the responsibility of the Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) to prevent, recognize, diagnose, refer, treat and rehabilitate the injuries/illnesses of student athletes in grades 7-12. As a result, there are requirements for a student-athlete to return to sport. This document will outline those requirements.

BWL Injuries:

All injuries related to BWL athletics will be evaluated by the ATC. If the ATC decides that further medical attention is needed <u>or</u> if the parent seeks further medical attention for their child, the athlete **must** bring in a note signed and dated by the health care professional who evaluated and treated them. The note must clearly state <u>when</u> the athlete is cleared to return to play and if there are any modifications/precautions the student-athlete needs to follow.

Non-BWL Injuries:

BWL is not responsible for injuries outside of school related activities. The ATC will do a complimentary evaluation upon request however; please contact your family physician regarding further evaluation and treatment. The athlete and their parents should inform both the coach and ATC so they are aware of the situation. Medical clearance may be requested upon the athlete's return. The ATC will review all documentation before the student athlete is cleared to play.

The BWL Sports Medicine Team is comprised of:
Carolyn Thompson- Sports Medicine Physician
Megan Walker- Athletic Trainer
Todd Divittorio- Athletic Director
Tim Jenkins- Assistant Athletic Director

**The sports medicine team reserves the right to hold from participation any athlete who has not provided the proper documentation. Although parents/guardians and family physicians can prevent an athlete from participating, none of these individuals can overrule the decision of the sports medicine team.