

CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES POLICY FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Piedmont Public Schools Board of Education recognizes that concussions and head injuries can result from contact sports and can have serious consequences if not properly evaluated and treated. Therefore, consistent with state law, Piedmont Schools will inform and educate student athletes and their parents/guardians of the nature and risk of concussions or head injuries, including the dangers associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury through this policy and the associated information sheets and forms.

Specifically, on an annual basis, and prior to a student athlete's participation in any athletic practices or competitions, a concussion and head injury information sheet shall be distributed to the student and his or her parent/guardian. Attached to the information sheet shall be an acknowledgement form which the student and his or her parent/guardian must sign to verify that they have read the information sheets and understand the content and warnings. The completed acknowledgement forms shall be returned to the Athletic Director prior to the student athlete's participation in practice or competition during the school year.

The student-athlete may not practice or compete until the form has been received.

If Piedmont Public School's coaching personnel suspect that a student athlete has sustained a concussion or head injury during a practice or game, the coach shall immediately remove that student from participation and direct the student to obtain a physical and mental status examination by a licensed health care provider selected by the student's parent or legal guardian. Piedmont Public Schools Board of Education has defined a licensed health care provider as follows: M.D. - Medical Doctor; D.O. - Doctor of Osteopathy, P.A. - Physician's Assistant, ARNP - Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, and ATC - Certified Athletic Trainer. This licensed health care provider must be trained in the evaluation and management of concussions. Piedmont Public Schools shall not be financially responsible for any health care bills associated with the examination.

After suffering a concussion, a student's physical and cognitive activities should be carefully managed and monitored by the licensed health care professional. Pursuant to Okla. Stat. tit. 70, 24-155, any student athlete removed from participation shall not be allowed to participate in practices or games until he or she is evaluated by a licensed health care provider and receives the provider's written clearance to return to participation, a copy of which shall be provided to Piedmont Public Schools.

MEDICAL CLEARANCE TO RETURN TO ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Please print the following information:

Name of M.D., D.O., P.A., ARNP,
or ATC trained in the evaluation
and management of concussions:

Address:

Phone Number:

Student Athlete's Name:

Date (s) of Evaluation for
Suspected concussion:

I have evaluated the student named above on the date(s) listed above. In my opinion as a M.D or D.O., P.A., ARNP, or ATC trained in the evaluation and management of concussions, the student named above is cleared to return to athletic practice and competition. Any limitations to this release are noted below.

Limitations (if any):

Signature of Medical Professional:

Printed name of Medical Professional:

Date:
