



The Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act

The Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act was drafted and implemented to protect the safety of student-athletes in North Carolina and was signed into law on June 6, 2011 by Governor Beverly Purdue. There are three major areas of focus in the law and these include: education, emergency action and postconcussion protocol implementation, and clearance/return to play or practice following a concussion. A copy of the Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act is available [here](#).

The school nurses and high school athletic trainers work together to educate coaches, athletes and families about concussion symptoms and care. All athletes and their parent/legal custodian need to read and sign the [Gfeller-Waller NCHSAA Student-Athlete and Parent/Legal Custodian Concussion Information Sheet](#) prior to participating in any sport.

In the unfortunate event that a student-athlete sustains a concussion, that student will work with the school nurse and/or athletic trainer on a plan to return to play and return to learn. A [post concussion health care plan](#) (pages 6-8) will be implemented.

Please contact your school nurse or athletic trainer with any questions.