

## Students

### Student Sports – Concussion

The Woodstock Academy recognizes that concussions and head injuries are commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in athletics and other recreational activities. The Woodstock Academy acknowledges the risk of catastrophic injuries or deaths are significant when a concussion is not properly evaluated and managed.

Any coach or advisor of intramural or interscholastic athletics employed by The Academy shall complete an initial training course; regarding concussions, as outlined by the State of Connecticut and which is required in order to obtain the state coaching certificate. Each coach who has completed the initial training shall annually review current and relevant information regarding concussions prior to the start of the coaching assignment in accordance with procedures established by the Director of Athletics and Director of Health Services.

The Woodstock Academy will also utilize protocols developed by the State Board of Education in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health, the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Association (CIAC), and appropriate organizations representing licensed athletic trainers and county medical associations to inform and educate coaches, youth athletes and their parents and/or guardians of the nature and risk of concussions, including the dangers associated with continuing to engage in athletic activity after a concussion of the proper method of allowing a student athlete who has sustained a concussion to return to an athletic activity.

The Woodstock Academy shall implement a concussion education plan; which may include written materials, online videos, and/or in person training. Parents/guardians will complete a consent form authorizing the student's athletic participation in the athletic activity.

Further, in compliance with applicable state statutes, the coach of any intramural or interscholastic athletics shall immediately remove any student athlete participating in intramural or interscholastic athletics who (1) is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion following an observed or suspected blow to the head or body during a practice, game or competition, (2) is diagnosed with a concussion, or (3) is otherwise suspected of having sustained a concussion because such student athlete is observed to exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion regardless of when such concussion may have occurred. Upon removal, the coach shall follow procedures established by the Athletic Director, the Director of Health Services and follow the guidance of the Athletic Trainer.

The coach shall not permit such student athlete to participate in any supervised athletic activities involving physical exertion, including, but not limited to, practices, games or competitions, until such student athlete receives written clearance to participate in such supervised team activities involving physical exertion from a licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions. Following medical clearance, the coach shall not permit such student athlete to participate in any full, unrestricted supervised athletic activities without limitations on contact or physical exertion, including, but not limited to, practices, games, or competitions, until such student athlete (1) no longer exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion at rest or with exertion, and (2) receives written clearance to participate in such full, unrestricted supervised athletic activities from a licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
PA 10-62 An Act Concerning Student Athletes and Concussions  
PA 14-66 An Act Concerning Youth Athletics and Concussions

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The Woodstock Academy  
Woodstock, Connecticut