

JGFGB Concussion Management

12/11/13

The Cobb County Board of Education (Board) recognizes that extracurricular athletic activities are an important part of the educational program offered within the Cobb County School District (District). The Board also recognizes that the physical nature of interscholastic athletics may result in student injury including concussions.

Accordingly, the District shall comply with the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-324.1 regarding the following:

- Prior to the beginning of each season of any extracurricular athletic activity, all parents or legal guardians of participating students shall be provided an information sheet informing them of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury.
- If a student participating in an extracurricular athletic activity exhibits symptoms of having a concussion he/she shall be removed from the game, competition, tryout, practice or other athletic activity and be examined by a health care provider. Such symptoms may include, but are not limited to:
 - Headache, dizziness, unusually poor balance, unusual clumsiness, unusually reduced energy level/tiredness;
 - Nausea or vomiting;
 - Blurred vision, sensitivity to light and sound;
 - Fogginess of memory, difficulty concentrating, slowed thought process, unusual confusion about surroundings or game assignments;
 - Unexplained changes in behavior and personality; or
 - Loss of consciousness
- If a student is deemed by a health care provider to have sustained a concussion, the coach or other designated personnel shall not permit the student to return to play until he or she receives clearance from a health care provider for a full or graduated return to play.
- As used in this policy, "health care provider" means a licensed physician or another licensed individual under a physician's supervision, such as a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or certified athletic trainer who has received training in concussion evaluation and management.
- Coaches, employees, and other designated individuals supervising extracurricular athletic activities are expected to use their training, personal judgment and discretion in implementing this policy.
- Per state law, this policy is not intended to create any liability for, or create a cause of action against, the Board, District employees, volunteers or other designated individuals for any act or omission to act related to the removal or non-removal of a student from an extracurricular athletic activity.
- The Board authorizes the Superintendent to direct the development of administrative guidelines as may be needed to implement this policy.

Adopted: 12/11/13

Legal Reference

O.C.G.A. 20-2-324.1

Concussion management and return to play policies for youth athletes