

INTEGRITY SPORTS CONCUSSION POLICY

1. Information concerning the nature, risk and symptoms of concussion and head injury, should be reviewed by all coaches, youth athletes and their parent or guardian. The Tennessee Department of Health has concussion information available at [Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\) \(tn.gov\)](http://www.tn.gov) The following information includes a copy of “Signs/Symptoms of Concussion”. The required Centers for Disease Control and Prevention concussion checklist is available at https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/providers/return_to_activities.html. Every individual signed up to play for Integrity Sports must review concussion information annually and sign a form that states this process has been completed.
2. The NFHS has developed a free 20-minute course online entitled “Concussion in Sport – What You Need to Know.” The course may be accessed at www.nfhslearn.com. Coaches and volunteers must complete this course annually.
3. Prior to the annual initiation of practice or competition the following persons must review and sign a concussion and head injury information sheet: all coaches, and volunteers. (sample information sheet for coaches provided)
4. Prior to the annual initiation of practice or competition, all youth athletes and the athlete's parent/guardian should review a concussion and head injury information sheet. A form confirming this review (sample information sheet provided) shall be signed and returned by the youth athlete, if the athlete is 18 years of age or older; or, by the athlete's parent/ guardian, for athletes younger than 18 years of age.
5. Any youth athlete who shows signs, symptoms and behavior consistent with a concussion shall immediately be removed from the activity or competition for evaluation by a licensed medical doctor, osteopathic physician or clinical neuropsychologist with concussion training, or physician assistant with concussion training who is a member of a health care team supervised by a Tennessee licensed medical doctor or osteopathic physician.
6. No youth athlete who has removed from play due to suspected concussion shall return to practice or competition until the youth athlete is evaluated by a health care provider and receives written clearance from the health care provider for a full or graduated return to play. The attached Concussion Return to Play Form has been approved by TDH and should be used in practices and games. The form was adapted from the Acute Concussion Evaluation plan on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website http://www.cdc.gov/headsup/pdfs/providers/ace_ed-a.pdf. It contains specific instructions that shall be followed before an athlete can return to sports. The form is to be completed and signed by a licensed medical doctor, osteopathic physician or a clinical neuropsychologist with concussion training, or physician assistant with concussion training who is a member of a health care team supervised by a Tennessee licensed medical doctor or osteopathic physician,

before an athlete that has been removed from practice or a game may return to participate. A copy of the form must be kept on file at the school or by the community-based youth athletic organization administrator.

7. All documentation of the completion of a concussion recognition and head injury safety education course program and signed concussion and head injury information sheets shall be maintained by Integrity Sports for a period of three years.