



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Oley Valley School District is currently implementing an innovative program for our student-athletes. This program will assist our team physicians/athletic trainers in evaluating and treating head injuries (e.g., concussion). In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student-athletes, we have acquired a software tool called ImPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). ImPACT is a computerized exam utilized in many professional, collegiate, and high school sports programs across the country to successfully diagnose and manage concussions. If an athlete is believed to have suffered a head injury during competition, ImPACT is used to help determine the severity of head injury and when the injury has fully healed.

The computerized exam is given to athletes during the first week of their pre-season and will be re-administered each year to students in 7th, 9th and 11th grades. Since this concussion tool is new this year all students in grades 7-12 will be tested. This non-invasive test is set up in “video-game” type format and takes about 15-20 minutes to complete. It is simple, and actually many athletes enjoy the challenge of taking the test. Essentially, the ImPACT test is a preseason physical of the brain. It tracks information such as memory, reaction time, speed, and concentration. It, however, is not an IQ test.

If a concussion is suspected, the athlete will be required to re-take the test. Both the preseason and post-injury test data is given to a local doctor or, to help evaluate the injury. The information gathered can also be shared with your family doctor. The test data will enable these health professionals to determine when return-to-play is appropriate and safe for the injured athlete. If an injury of this nature occurs to your child, you will be promptly contacted with all the details.

I wish to stress that the ImPACT testing procedures are non-invasive, and they pose no risks to your student-athlete. We are excited to implement this program given that it provides us the best available information for managing concussions and preventing potential brain damage that can occur with multiple concussions. The Oley Valley administration, coaching, and athletic training staffs are striving to keep your child’s health and safety at the forefront of the student athletic experience.

If you do not want your child ImPACT tested, please provide written notice to the Athletic Office prior to your child’s scheduled test date listed on the back of this page. If you have any further questions regarding this program please feel free to contact me at 610-987-4111.

Sincerely,

Timothy Rhoads, CAA
Director of Athletics



Oley Valley School District Traumatic Brain Injury/Concussion Policy & Protocols

The complete concussion management policy and protocol can be found on the school district website at: www.oleyvalleysd.org under the Athletics tab. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with the current standards of practice for the care of brain injuries that will be followed by the Oley Valley School District. Any student who is believed to have suffered a brain injury (concussion) will need to be evaluated by a physician who is trained in the management of concussions. Upon clearance from the medical professional, the student will be placed on a graduated progression of returning to play that will take several days until he/she is fully cleared to return to normal play. This progression is outlined in the policy found on the school district website and is in accordance to the ImPACT guidelines as well as current research in the management of traumatic brain injuries.

Fall 2012 ImPACT Testing Schedule

****Testing will take place in the Middle School Computer Lab****

Tuesday, August 14

HS Girls Volleyball – 7:30AM
Soccer Cheerleading – 9:00AM
HS Boys Soccer – 1:00PM
HS Girls Cross Country – 2:30PM

Wednesday, August 15

HS Girls Soccer – 7:30AM
HS Golf – 1:00PM
HS Field Hockey – 2:30PM
HS Boys Cross Country – 4:00PM

Tuesday, August 21

MS Boys Soccer – 4:00PM

Wednesday, August 22

MS Cross Country – 3:30PM
MS Girls Soccer – 5:00PM

Thursday, August 23

MS Field Hockey – 4:30PM

Friday, August 24

MS Girls Volleyball – 4:30PM