PARENT & ATHLETE CONCUSSION INFORMATION SHEET



A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works. A concussion is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. Even a "ding," "getting your bell rung," or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious.

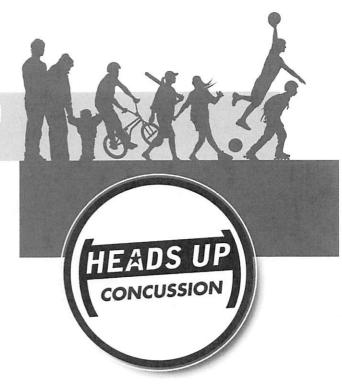


Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days or weeks after the injury.

If an athlete reports one or more symptoms of concussion after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body, s/he should be kept out of play the day of the injury. The athlete should only return to play with permission from a health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion.

DTD YOU KNOW?

- Most concussions occur without loss of consciousness.
- Athletes who have, at any point in their lives, had a concussion have an increased risk for another concussion.
- Young children and teens are more likely to get a concussion and take longer to recover than adults.



SYMPTOMS REPORTED BY ATHLETE:

- · Headache or "pressure" in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- · Balance problems or dizziness
- · Double or blurry vision
- · Sensitivity to light
- · Sensitivity to noise
- · Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- · Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion
- Just not "feeling right" or is "feeling down"

SIGNS OBSERVED BY COACHING STAFF:

- Appears dazed or stunned
- · Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- · Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- · Moves clumsily
- · Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- · Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes
- · Can't recall events prior to hit or fall
- · Can't recall events after hit or fall

[INSERT YOUR LOGO]



"IT'S BETTER TO MISS ONE GAME THAN THE WHOLE SEASON"

CONCUSSION DANGER SIGNS

In rare cases, a dangerous blood clot may form on the brain in a person with a concussion and crowd the brain against the skull. An athlete should receive immediate medical attention if after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body s/he exhibits any of the following danger signs:

- · One pupil larger than the other
- · Is drowsy or cannot be awakened
- · A headache that gets worse
- · Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination
- · Repeated vomiting or nausea
- · Slurred speech
- · Convulsions or seizures
- Cannot recognize people or places
- Becomes increasingly confused, restless, or agitated
- · Has unusual behavior
- Loses consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously)

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU THINK YOUR ATHLETE HAS A CONCUSSION?

- If you suspect that an athlete has a concussion, remove the athlete from play and seek medical attention. Do not try to judge the severity of the injury yourself. Keep the athlete out of play the day of the injury and until a health care professional, experienced in evaluating for concussion, says s/he is symptom-free and it's OK to return to play.
- 2. Rest is key to helping an athlete recover from a concussion. Exercising or activities that involve a lot of concentration, such as studying, working on the computer, and playing video games, may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. After a concussion, returning to sports and school is a gradual process that should be carefully managed and monitored by a health care professional.
- Remember: Concussions affect people differently. While
 most athletes with a concussion recover quickly and fully,
 some will have symptoms that last for days, or even
 weeks. A more serious concussion can last for months or
 longer.

WHY SHOULD AN ATHLETE REPORT THEIR SYMPTOMS?

If an athlete has a concussion, his/her brain needs time to heal. While an athlete's brain is still healing, s/he is much more likely to have another concussion. Repeat concussions can increase the time it takes to recover. In rare cases, repeat concussions in young athletes can result in brain swelling or permanent damage to their brain. They can even be fatal.

STUDENT-ATHLETE NAME PRINTED
STUDENT-ATHLETE NAME SIGNED
DATE
PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME PRINTED
PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME SIGNED
DATE

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HEADS UP

TO LEARN MORE OD TO >> WWW.CDC.GOV/CONCUSSION

Student Athlete Sportsmanship Expectation Form (From Virginia High School League Handbook)

The Athlete Should:

- 1. Be courteous to visiting teams and officials.
- 2. Play hard and to the limit of his/her ability, regardless of discouragement. The true athlete does not give up nor does he/she quarrel, cheat, bet or grandstand.
- 3. Retain his/her composure at all times and never leave the bench to enter the playing field/court to engage in a fight.
- 4. Be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat. A true sportsman does not offer excuses for failure.
- 5. Maintain a high degree of physical fitness by observing team and training rules conscientiously.
- 6. Demonstrate loyalty to the school by maintaining a satisfactory scholastic standing and by participating in or supporting other school activities.
- 7. Play for the love of the game.
- 8. Understand and observe the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
- 9. Set a high standard of personal cleanliness.
- 10. Respect the integrity and judgment of officials and accept their decisions without question.
- 11. Respect the facilities of host schools and the trust entailed in being a guest. My signature affirms that as a student athlete representing a Chesterfield County Pubic Schools team, I have read and understand the sportsmanship expectations listed above. Further, I agree, at all times, to abide and practice these behaviors understanding the failure, to do so may result in consequences including, but not limited to, sanctions from the Virginia High School League (VHSL) and the school pertaining to continued or future participation in any VHSL activity.

Student Name (Please Print):	
Student Signature:	ſ
Date:	
[This form will remain on file in the office of the Director of Stude	ent Activities]



SPORTS MEDICINE

	137		LETE IN			N/I F	l. DO	D.
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Nickname:		Grade:		Spc	ort:			JV or varsity
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Phone number:		Fm	State. ail Address			Zip		
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Relationship								
to Athlete								
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Printed Name: _			_ Signature: _					Date:

Student Athlete Authorization for Disclosure of Protected Health Information

I hereby authorize the Team Physicians from VCU Health System and Certified Athletic Trainers representing Matoaca High School to release information regarding my protected health information and any related information regarding any injury or illness during my participation in high school athletics. This protected health information may be released to other health care providers, parents/guardians, hospitals and/or medical clinics and laboratories, athletic coaches, strength and conditioning coaches, medical insurance coordinators, insurance carriers, and the VHSL. I understand that my authorization /consent for the disclosure of my protected health information is a condition for participation as a high school athlete for Monacan High School. I understand that my protected health information is protected by federal regulations under either the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) or the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and may not be disclosed without either my authorization under HIPPAA or my consent under FERPA. I understand that once information is disclosed per my authorization/consent, the information is subject to re-disclosure and may no longer be protected by HIPAA and/or FERPA.

I understand that I may revoke this authorization/consent at any time by notifying in writing the Head Athletic Trainer, but if I do, it will not have any effect on actions Matoaca High School took in reliance on this authorization/consent prior to receiving the revocation. This authorization/consent expires one (1) year from the date it is signed.

Name of Student-Athlete (Please print)	Date of Birth	Date
Signature of Student-Athlete	Sport	_
Parent/Legal Guardian (Please Print)	Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian	Date