

CONCUSSION AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

What is a concussion?

A concussion is a brain injury that:

- Is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body
- Can change the way a student's brain normally functions
- Can occur during practice or contests in any sport
- Can occur in activities both associated and not associated with the school
- Can occur even if the student has not lost consciousness
- Can be serious even if a student has just been "dinged" or had their "bell rung"

Are the symptoms of a concussion?

Concussions cannot be seen; however, in a potentially concussed student, one or more of the following symptoms may become apparent. The student may not "feel right" soon after, a few days after or even weeks after the injury event.

Headache	"Pressure" in the head	Nausea	Vomiting
Balance problems	Dizziness	Blurry Vision	Double Vision
Sensitivity to Light	Sensitivity to Noise	Confusion	Memory Problems
Difficulty paying attention	Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy or groggy		

If you have concerns regarding any of the above symptoms, your doctor should be consulted for further information and/or examination. Your physician or medical professional can best determine your student's physical condition and ability to participate in athletics.

What should students do if they believe that they or someone else may have a concussion?

- Students should immediately notify their coach or school personnel.
- Student should be examined by appropriate medical personnel of the parent's choosing. The medical provider should be trained in the diagnosis and treatment of concussions
- If no concussion is diagnosed, the student shall be cleared to return to athletic participation.
- If a concussion is diagnosed, the school protocol for return to play from a concussion shall be enacted. Under no circumstances shall the student be allowed to return to practice or play without the approval of a licensed medical provider trained in the treatment of concussions.

I have reviewed the above material. I understand the symptoms and warning signs of CONCUSSIONS. Additional information is available on the Health and Safety page at www.tapps.net. All concussions should be reported to the school as soon as possible. Previous concussions should be reported on the Medical History form to allow the medical practitioner the best information possible when conducting the annual physical examination.

Parent Signature / Date: _____

Student Signature / Date: _____

CONCUSSIONS – Don't hide it. Report it. Take time to recover.