

CONCUSSION/HEAD INJURY FACT SHEET STUDENT-ATHLETES

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

- A concussion is a brain injury
- Is caused by a bump or blow to the head
- Can change the way your brain normally works
- Can occur during practice or games in any sport
- Can happen even if you have not been knocked out
- Can be serious even if you have just been "dinged"

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF A CONCUSSION?

- Headache or "pressure" in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Sensitivity to light
- Sensitivity to noise
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion
- Does not "feel right"

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK I HAVE A CONCUSSION?

- Tell your coaches or parents. Never ignore a bump or blow to the head even if you feel fine. Also, tell your coach if one of your teammates may have a concussion.
- Get a medical checkup. A doctor or health care professional can tell you if you have a concussion and when you are OK to return to play.
- Give yourself time to get better. If you have had a concussion, your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is still healing, you are much more likely to have a second concussion. Additional concussions can cause damage to your brain. It is important to rest until you get approval from a doctor or health care professional to return to play.

HOW CAN I PREVENT A CONCUSSION?

- Follow your coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Practice good sportsmanship.
- Use the proper equipment, including personal protective equipment (such as helmets, padding, shin guards and eye and mouth guards---IN ORDER FOR EQUIPMENT TO PROTECT YOU, it must be the right equipment for the game, position and activity; it must be worn correctly and used every time you play.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

- www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBraininjury/
- www.oata.net
- www.ossaa.com
- www.nfhslearn.com

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

Concussion and Head Injury Acknowledgement

(Name of School)

In compliance with Oklahoma Statute Section 24-155 of Title 70, this acknowledgement form is to confirm that you have read and understand the CONCUSSION FACT SHEET provided to you by _____ related to potential concussions and head injuries occurring during participation in athletics.

I, _____, as a student-athlete who participates in
(Please Print Student Athlete's Name)
_____ athletics and I, _____
(Name of School) (Please Print Parent/Legal Guardian's Name)

as the parent/legal guardian, have read the information material provided to us by
_____ related to concussions and head injuries occurring
(Name of School)
during participation in athletic programs and understand the content and warnings.

Signature of Student-Athlete

Date

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

This form should be completed annually prior to the athlete's first practice and/or competition and be kept on file for one year beyond the date of signature in the principal's office or the office designated by the principal.