

ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
**Concussion Information Form**  
*(Required by AHSAA Annually.)*  
2017-18 School Year

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** In other words, even a "ding" or a bump on the head can be serious. You cannot see a concussion and most sports concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away.

<b>Symptoms may include one or more of the following:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headaches</li> <li>• "Pressure in head"</li> <li>• Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Neck pain</li> <li>• Balance problems or dizziness</li> <li>• Blurred, double, or fuzzy vision</li> <li>• Sensitivity to light or noise</li> <li>• Feeling sluggish or slowed down</li> <li>• Feeling foggy or groggy</li> <li>• Drowsiness</li> <li>• Change in sleep patterns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amnesia</li> <li>• "Don't feel right"</li> <li>• Fatigue or low energy</li> <li>• Sadness</li> <li>• Nervousness or anxiety</li> <li>• Irritability</li> <li>• More emotional</li> <li>• Confusion</li> <li>• Concentration or memory problems (forgetting game plays)</li> <li>• Repeating the same question/comment</li> </ul>
<b>Signs observed by teammates, parents and coaches include:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appears dazed</li> <li>• Vacant facial expression</li> <li>• Confused about assignment</li> <li>• Forgets plays</li> <li>• Is unsure of game, score, or opponent</li> <li>• Moves clumsily or displays incoordination</li> <li>• Answers questions slowly</li> <li>• Slurred speech</li> <li>• Shows behavior or personality changes</li> <li>• Can't recall events prior to hit</li> <li>• Can't recall events after hit</li> <li>• Seizures or convulsions</li> <li>• Any change in typical behavior or personality</li> <li>• Loses consciousness</li> </ul>	

(Continued on Page 2)

AHSAA Concussion Information Form (Page 2)

**What can happen if my child keeps on playing with a concussion or returns too soon?**

Athletes with the signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the athlete especially vulnerable to greater injury. There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period of time after that concussion occurs, particularly if the athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recovery, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences. It is well known that adolescent or teenage athletes will often fail to report symptoms of injuries. Concussions are no different. As a result, education of administrators, coaches, parents and students is the key to a student-athlete's safety.

**AHSAA Concussion Policy:** Any student-athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be removed from the contest and shall not return that day. Following the day the concussive symptoms occur, the student-athlete may return to practice or play only after a medical release has been issued by a medical doctor.

Any health care professional or AHSAA certified coach may identify concussive signs, symptoms or behaviors of a student athlete during any type of athletic activity. Once concussive signs are identified, only a medical doctor can clear an athlete to return to play. Any school in violation of the AHSAA policy application of the National Federation rule will be subject to sanctions.

**If you think your child has suffered a concussion:**

Any athlete even suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the game or practice immediately. No athlete may return to activity on the same day he/she sustained an apparent head injury or concussion, regardless of how mild it seems or how quickly symptoms clear. The athlete may return the following day or anytime thereafter with written clearance from a medical doctor. Close observation of the athlete should continue for several hours. You should also inform your child's coach if you think that your child may have a concussion. Remember it's better to miss one game than miss the whole season. And when in doubt, the athlete sits out.

This form is required by Alabama Law established in June 2011. The form was revised in April 2012, coinciding with the current AHSAA Concussion Policy.

**I have reviewed this information on concussions and am aware that a release by a medical doctor is required before a student may return to play under this policy.**

_____ Student-Athlete Name Printed	_____ Student-Athlete Signature	_____ Date
_____ Parent Name Printed	_____ Parent Signature	_____ Date



Participant Agreement, Consent, Release, And Venue

This completed form must be kept on file by the school. This form is valid for the years 2017-2018

Part 1. Student Agreement, Consent, And Release (to be signed by student at the bottom)

I know of no reason why I am not eligible to represent my school in interscholastic athletic competition. If accepted as a representative, I agree to follow the rules of my school and AHSAA and to abide by their decisions. I know that athletic participation is a privilege. I know of the risks involved in athletic participation and choose to accept such risks. I hereby authorize the use or disclosure of my individually identifiable health information should treatment for illness or injury become necessary. I also authorize physicians or other designated medical professionals associated with the AHSAA to review my individually identifiable health information and/or a video live feed of a health-related inspection/exam for the purpose of determining my eligibility to participate in certain athletic events. I further authorize the disclosure of my individually identifiable health information by any physician performing such examination to appropriate AHSAA and/or school officials or other health care officials involved in determining eligibility for participation in athletic events. I hereby consent to the disclosure by my school to AHSAA, upon its request, and hereby grant AHSAA the right to review all records including my SSID number relevant to my athletic eligibility including, but not limited to, my official transcripts, and records relating to enrollment and attendance, academic standing, age, discipline, residence and physical fitness. This Consent includes granting AHSAA the right to review all records otherwise protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and all official transcripts provided to my school from any school that is in the Youth Services Department District. I hereby grant the released parties the right to photograph and/or videotape me and further to use my name, face, likeness, voice and appearance in connection with exhibitions, publicity, advertising, promotional and commercial materials without reservation or limitation. The released parties, however, are under no obligation to exercise said rights herein.

Part 2. Parental/Guardian Agreement, Consent, And Release (to be completed and signed by a parent(s)/guardian(s) at the bottom; where divorced or separated, parent/guardian with legal custody must sign.)

A. I hereby give consent for my child/ward to participate in any AHSAA recognized or sanctioned sport EXCEPT for the following sport(s):

List sport(s) exceptions here

B. I know of, and acknowledge that my child/ward knows of, the risks involved in interscholastic athletic participation. I authorize emergency medical treatment for my child/ward should the need arise for such treatment while my child/ward is under the supervision of the school. I further hereby authorize the use or disclosure of my child's/ward's individually identifiable health information should treatment for illness or injury become necessary. I consent to the disclosure, by my child's/ward's school, to the AHSAA, upon its request, of all records relevant to his/her athletic eligibility including, but not limited to, his/her records relating to enrollment and attendance, academic standing, age, discipline, residence and physical fitness. I grant the released parties the right to photograph and/or videotape my child/ward and further to use said child's/ward's name, face, likeness, voice and appearance in connection with exhibitions, publicity, advertising, promotional and commercial materials without reservation or limitation. The released parties, however, are under no obligation to exercise said rights herein.

C. I am aware of the potential danger of concussions and/or head and neck injuries in interscholastic athletics. I also have knowledge about the risk of continuing to participate once such an injury is sustained without proper medical clearance.

D. VENUE FOR ANY AND ALL LITIGATION AND ATTORNEY FEES. I agree that in the event I, or anyone acting on my child's behalf, files suit against AHSAA or any of its officers, directors, agents, or employees alleging any cause of action and seeking either legal or equitable relief impacting my child (individually) or my child's team participation in AHSAA contests, such action shall be filed in the Montgomery County, Alabama, Circuit Court. I also agree that filing such action in the Montgomery County Circuit Court is both fair and reasonable. I further agree that should AHSAA prevail in such litigation, either in Circuit Court or any Appellate Court, then AHSAA shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs associated with the litigation.

I HAVE READ THIS CAREFULLY AND KNOW IT CONTAINS A RELEASE AND VENUE CLAUSE (Only one parent/guardian signature is required)

Name of Parent/Guardian (printed)

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Name of Parent/Guardian (printed)

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

I HAVE READ THIS CAREFULLY AND KNOW IT CONTAINS A RELEASE AND VENUE CLAUSE (student must sign)

Name of Student (printed)

Signature of Student

Date