

JHCI CONCUSSION POLICY

The Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School Board recognizes that student-athletes are at risk of suffering concussions while participating in school athletics. Further, students in all grades may incur concussion injuries while participating in school activities, classes, or while at play. The Board understands the importance of educating students, parents and school staff about the risks of concussions and the need for careful handling of the post-injury healing process.

A. Concussion Information to Parents and Student-Athletes

A copy of this policy will be included in all student handbooks in all district schools. In addition, the Athletic Department will distribute this policy and a concussion and head injury information sheet to all student athletes at sign-ups or try-outs for each sport or at the orientation program for each sport. At all initial team organizational meetings, coaches will highlight this policy, emphasizing that student safety will be paramount at all times, and that there will be no exceptions made to any policy requirements. A parent/legal guardian and the student-athlete must submit a signed acknowledgment indicating that they have reviewed and understand the information provided before being permitted to play in regular season games.

B. Student-Athletes with Suspected Concussions

Coaches are required to be alert to situations where a student-athlete may have suffered a concussion or head injury. However, there may be situations where a coach may not have observed an incident which could result in a concussion or head injury. Student-athletes and parents are required to report to the coach any incident which may result in a concussion or head injury, or any possible symptoms.

1. Any student-athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in practice or in a game shall be immediately removed from play.
2. The student-athlete shall not return to play in either practice or in a game until he or she is evaluated by a health care provider and receives a written medical authorization to return to play.
3. The student-athlete's parent/guardian must also complete and sign the WLCSD Parental Permission to Return to Play form.

C. Definitions

1. "Student-athlete" means a student involved in any intramural sports program conducted outside the regular teaching day or competitive student sports program between schools in grades 4-12.

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2. “Student sports” means intramural sports programs conducted outside the regular teaching day for students in grades 4-12 or competitive athletic programs between schools for students in grades 4-12.

Legal Reference: RSA 200:49, 200:50

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