

School District of Solon Springs  
Extra-Curricular Handbook  
2024-2025



## **INTRODUCTION**

The extracurricular program in the Solon Springs School District is to be implemented in accordance with the general goals and philosophies of the Solon Springs School System.

Extracurricular involvement facilitates personal growth by developing leadership, self-esteem, and sportsmanship, as well as habits and attitudes that will prepare students to meet future challenges. The purpose of this handbook is to provide the basic framework upon which we can build our extracurricular program to best enhance the education of all participants. By following the guidelines set forth here we will be on our way to a successful year.

We encourage all students in the Solon Springs School District to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities and assist in making each program a success. The opportunity to participate in school extracurricular programs comes along once in a lifetime; don't let it pass you by!

Mr. Nathan Ahlberg  
Athletic Director

## **PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETIC COACHING**

The purpose of this philosophy is to provide goals and direction to adults working with student-athletes in the Solon Springs School District.

Athletic programs are voluntary, educational opportunities in this district.

### **GOALS:**

1. Good sportsmanship and rules of fair play
2. Teamwork
3. Esprit
4. Self-esteem and emotional growth
5. Goal setting - team and individual
6. Leadership skills
7. Knowledge of rules and game strategy
8. Physical skills

Winning is not for the glorification of the coach, team, student, or parent - it is one of the outcomes of competition. This is not to say that winning is not important. Winning is and must be, a goal of the competition. This school

district encourages the coach to use all players in trying to win.

This Extra-Curricular Handbook has been adopted as a policy by the Solon Springs School Board. This policy aims to ensure that student participants, and parents of participants, know and support the regulations governing the student's involvement. To make this phase of their education more meaningful, you and your son/daughter are to sign and return the form that appears at the end of this document. This must be completed before they will be permitted to participate in interscholastic athletics.

List of programs covered by this handbook:

Cross Country, Middle School Basketball, High School Basketball, Volleyball, Middle School Volleyball, Softball, Baseball, Football co-op with Northwood, Track and Field.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Ethical and behavioral ideals, principles, and standards include, but are not limited to: negative and/or illegal acts against a person or property, and involvement in acts that are viewed as contrary to accepted moral and legal standards including severe profanity, abusive language, vandalism (damage with intent), fighting, cheating on tests or school work, and theft. This also includes the use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and illegal drugs. These rules apply both on and off school grounds. Any incidents of violations or repeated violations, regardless of when they occur, will be considered separate violations. (After the initial violation, all subsequent violations will build upon the previous level.)

**The code shall be in force for 12 months of the year. Students will complete the season to fulfill the suspension. The suspension will carry over from one season to the next if not completed during the current season.**

### **VIOLATIONS**

Students should understand that through the extracurricular program the school is serious about teaching that inappropriate conduct and chemical abuse are not in a person's best interest.

Violations are cumulative for up to two years. If an athlete has not had a violation in two years the athlete will again begin at violation one. Violations will not carry over from middle school.

An athlete that is suspended for a code of conduct violation may continue to practice and attend games as a team member at the discretion of the coaching staff unless otherwise noted.

**LEVEL 1 VIOLATIONS-** Level 1 violations include behavior that generally results in a suspension (in or out of school) or behavior that is contrary to the generally recognized moral and ethical standards. These violations include but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Misconduct requiring correction by a supervising adult.
- B. Found in the presence of (such as at a party) the use of illegal chemicals, drugs, beverages, or substances.
- C. Suspension (in or out of school).

#### **PENALTIES FOR LEVEL 1 VIOLATION**

FIRST OFFENSE: Suspension of up to 25% of scheduled competitions. e.g. basketball: 22 scheduled games = up to 5 ½ game suspension.

SECOND OFFENSE: Suspension of up to 50% of scheduled competitions. e.g. volleyball: 15 scheduled matches = up to 7 ½ match suspension.

THIRD OFFENSE: Suspended from all programs for up to one calendar year.

Penalties are to be enforced as soon as possible after a violation. Length of suspension to be determined by the Extra-Curricular Council.

**LEVEL 2 VIOLATIONS-** Level 2 violations generally include those that could result in **legal consequences** for students. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Gross misconduct requiring the attention of the Extra-Curricular Council<sup>1</sup> (harassment, fighting, etc.).
- B. Criminal charges (theft, vandalism, etc.)
- C. Consumption, possession, distribution, or sale of, alcohol, tobacco products (includes vape/e-cigarettes), performance enhancement drugs, or illegal mood-altering chemicals.

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<sup>1</sup> Extra-Curricular Council shall consist of one coach (not the coach of the sport from which a student has possible disciplinary action), the athletic director, one member of the teaching staff, and the principal.

## PENALTIES FOR LEVEL 2 VIOLATION

### FIRST OFFENSE:

A suspension from 50% of all scheduled competitions, unless self-reported within 48 hours of the infraction and the violator fully cooperates with any investigation. In this case, the penalty may be reduced to 25%.

The following also applies to Violation C of Level 2

- A. Complete a 10-week AODA program. The student must attend weekly counseling sessions with full participation until the next start of the AODA program, in order to continue with any athletic program.

**Any student who does not fully participate or misses AODA counseling sessions without reasonable cause will be given an immediate 90-school day suspension from athletics.**

### SECOND OFFENSE:

A suspension from 100% of all scheduled competitions, unless self-reported within 48 hours of the infraction and the violator fully cooperates with any investigation. In this case, the penalty may be reduced to 50%.

Attend weekly AODA counseling sessions for 90 days, if applicable.

### THIRD OFFENSE:

Suspension from extracurricular activities for one calendar year.

Students may NOT participate in practices during the time of suspension and will not attend games as team members.

## A. AODA PHILOSOPHY:

The Solon Springs School District recognizes that the use of mind-altering chemicals is a significant health problem for many adolescents which has negative effects on behavior, learning, and personal development. Adolescent chemical use and abuse affect skill development related to participation in extracurricular activities. We also feel that students should understand that through the extracurricular program the school is serious about teaching that chemical use is not in a person's best interest.

## B. DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS:

ELIGIBLE: to qualify, and meets all requirements set by this handbook to be allowed to practice and participate.

INELIGIBLE: not qualified, doesn't meet all requirements set by this handbook, not allowed to practice or participate until eligible status is obtained.

ACADEMIC PROBATION: Any athlete who has not met academic requirements. Athletes are subject to weekly grade checks. Athletes will be suspended if they are not passing all classes. Athletes may resume competition when they pass the weekly grade report.

ATHLETE: any student who participates in any school-sanctioned sport as a participant or manager.

DEFICIENCY: doesn't meet the requirements, work is unsatisfactory.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: absences that are classified as excused by the student handbook or by the administration.

### **REQUIREMENTS, RULES, AND GUIDELINES**

Rules for athletic participation: The following set of rules, requirements, and guidelines will be enforced by the entire Solon Springs Coaching Staff in all athletic organizations for the entire year. Any appeals regarding suspension from an athletic organization or event shall follow "Due Process" in appendix B as stated in this handbook. The school year is defined as the school calendar as set by the school board.

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

1. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must have on file in the athletic director's office a completed copy of the physical exam form. This form must be renewed every other year. In the second year, a signed copy of the WIAA alternate year card must be on file.
2. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must have on file in the athletic director's office a signed WIAA rules of eligibility form. (Enclosed at the end of this handbook)
3. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must be educated on the signs and symptoms of concussions. The athlete and parent/guardian must then sign the "Statement Acknowledging Receipt of Education and Responsibility" form prior to the beginning

of each athletic season.

4. To be eligible for athletics, the athlete must be passing in all academics and maintain a minimum quarterly grade point average of 2.0.
  - a. Students who fail to meet the academic requirements will be suspended for the first 15 days of the following academic term as mandated by the WIAA. Athletes will be placed on academic probation for the duration of the academic term (see definition above).
  - b. A suspension from the 4th quarter of one academic year will carry over to the 1st quarter of the following academic year. The maximum ineligibility period shall be the lesser of
    - 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of the earliest allowed competition in a sport
    - One-third of the maximum number of games/meets allowed in a sport
5. At mid-term or D-slip time, students must be passing all academics to continue participation.
  - Any athlete failing at midterm will be suspended until passing all classes. Athletes will be placed on academic probation for the duration of the academic term (see definition above).
  - a. A student who is enrolled in an EEN program is subject to the grade requirements listed above. The student and a parent/guardian may request a review of the ineligibility by a faculty review committee. This committee shall be appointed by the principal and shall be made up of the student's special education instructor, a classroom teacher, the guidance counselor, and the principal.
  - b. The student may become eligible if this committee determines that the student is making satisfactory progress in his/her total school program as indicated by the I.E.P.
  - c. A student who presents a doctor's excuse for a learning handicap (other than an Exceptional Educational Need) may go before the review committee if that student is academically ineligible or if he/she receives a grade point average less than 2.0 or a failing grade on a deficiency notice. The student and parent/guardian may request a review of the ineligibility by a faculty review committee. This committee shall be appointed by the principal and shall be made up of

the student's instructor, a classroom teacher, the guidance counselor, and the principal.

6. Injured athletes are to be in attendance at all practice sessions unless excused by the coach.
7. An athlete who does not participate in practice (s) or competition on the recommendation of a physician will require written notification from a physician to return to competition.
8. Attendance at the seasonal sports informational meetings is required for each athlete and a parent or guardian. Failure to attend the required meetings will result in the athlete being ineligible for 30% of the games and practices. Those who cannot attend due to an emergency situation should contact the athletic director to make other arrangements. Parents/students who are absent from the meeting for two consecutive years will cause the athlete to be ineligible for an entire sports season.
9. Athletes are responsible for getting assignments from their teachers and submitting work to the teacher before they leave for a sporting event. Sixth graders participating in junior high sports will be required to complete weekly progress reports during their season(s) of participation. If a student has a failing grade or at least two D's, the student will be suspended for at least one week. When satisfactory grade progress has been verified by the student's teachers, he/she may return to participation.

### **RULES**

1. Any possession or use of alcohol or a controlled substance during the entire school year is prohibited by any athlete.
2. All detentions and after-school suspensions must be made up when assigned. If not, the athlete will be excluded from game participation until made up.
3. An athlete who is absent for any portion of the school day must present a physician or dentist appointment card or a note from the physician's office in order to practice or participate in a game. The athlete may participate if absent for the following: funeral, court appointment, and driver's test. (The student should be prepared to present written verification of such absence.)
4. All athletes/participants are required to travel to and from



out-of-town events with the team. Exceptions to this rule will be made upon presentation of a valid written parent request, verified by the principal, presented to the coach. Parents/guardians may transport their own children home from an out-of-town event by signing the school form that each coach carries for this purpose. The signing of this form is to be done by the parent only and will be done only at the conclusion of the game for that child.

5. Any accusations regarding alleged violations by any one or more athletes must be presented in written form to the coach of that sport and the athletic director. Appendix B (Due Process Procedures) will be followed.
6. An athlete who verbally or physically attacks a coach shall be suspended from athletic participation for the period of one calendar year.
7. Clothing and attire for practices. In most cases, the guidelines from the Board-approved Student Handbook regarding dress and appearance are adequate to cover this situation. The practice of wearing clothing that reveals undergarments is not permitted by the handbook. In specific instances, such as Cross Country, the clothing manufactured for the practice of this sport may not adhere to our Handbook guidelines. For example, the race back tops/shirts made for running would be in violation of our code. Such items will be left to the discretion of the coach of that sport, with final approval or denial coming from the athletic director.
8. The lettering criteria and awarding of letters for each individual sport will be determined by the head coach of that sport and the athletic director. Coaches will follow these guidelines when awarding letters:
  - a. The athlete must follow the procedures outlined in the Extra-Curricular Handbook.
  - b. The athlete must comply with all high school and WIAA regulations.
  - c. The athlete must complete the season. (Varsity athletes who are physically unable to complete the season due to injury will be given special consideration.)
  - d. The athlete must show team spirit through effort, dedication, and cooperation with the team members and coaches.

- e. The athlete must have attended all games and practices unless excused by the coach.
- 9. Fifth-grade students will be able to participate in middle school basketball and volleyball if needed to fill out two full teams. This will be determined by the coach and athletic director.
- 10. Fifth-grade students will be able to participate in middle school cross country when they meet the eligibility rules, requirements, and guidelines. Fifth-grade students will compete under the following guidelines:
  - a. Fifth graders can practice anytime the middle school team practices.
  - b. Fifth graders can run any meeting held on a non-school day.
  - c. Fifth graders can compete in the Drummond Invitational
  - d. Fifth graders may compete in the South Shore Invitational (typically the final meet for MS cross country) under the following conditions:
    - i. Cross country coaches feel **all** fifth-grade runners will benefit from and be able to withstand the continuation of their season.
    - ii. The fifth-grade teacher(s) feel **all** fifth-grade runners are keeping up with academic and classroom demands and will be able to withstand the continuation of their season.
    - iii. There have been no other disciplinary issues with fifth-grade runners.

*Criteria for letter winners have been established by the coaches and athletic director as follows:*

**SOFTBALL:**

A player must play in twenty percent (20%) of the innings at the varsity level.

**BASKETBALL:**

A player must play in twenty-five percent (25%) of the quarters at the varsity level.

**BASEBALL:**

A player must play in twenty percent (20%) of the innings at the varsity level.

**VOLLEYBALL:**

A player must play in twenty-five percent (25%) of the games at the varsity level.

CROSS COUNTRY:

A runner must compete in twenty-five (25%) of the varsity races.

FOOTBALL:

To be determined by the Northwood High School athletic guidelines.

JUNIOR VARSITY: Certificates of participation will be given to junior varsity players who successfully complete the season.

FOR ALL:

Members of a regional championship team shall all earn letters.

Students with an injury or medical excuse may not be able to participate but must still attend games and practices. Medical notifications for non-participation or to be released from attending practices and games must be presented to the athletic director.

To earn a letter or certificate, all athletes must adhere to all training rules and athletic codes.

It will be up to the coach's or advisor's discretion to award special letters.

Team managers may be awarded letters at the coach's discretion.

Athletic Awards are given as follows:

The first time any athlete receives a letter award they also receive an emblem patch of the sport in which the letter was earned. In the following years, after earning the first letter award and patch, the athlete receives only a chevron.

An athlete lettering in more than one varsity sport can receive only one letter patch, but an emblem patch of the sport in which the letter was earned and a chevron is to be awarded to the athlete in each sport for which the athlete earns a letter.

A single eligibility list will be established giving the names of athletes participating. This list will be distributed to all teachers. At any time a teacher feels an athlete has a deficiency, the teacher will contact the coach and/or athletic director. The athlete will have the following week to make up for the deficiency. After one week, the student will be ineligible.

NOTE: The coach will file with the athletic director a statement referring to any athletes who have unused portions of punishment. Disciplinary action will carry over from one sport to the next and from one school year to the next. Disciplinary action and total violations will not carry from junior high to senior high.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **WIAA RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. All WIAA rules and regulations will be followed except those exceeded by the foregoing. Infractions will be dealt with according to WIAA regulations.
2. The WIAA states that each school district will have an athletic code approved by the board of education on file.
3. The WIAA states each student participant shall be entitled to due process in the event he/she feels a wrong decision has been made. The right of due process is guaranteed.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE RELATED TO ATHLETIC CODE**

"Due Process" is a procedure that the courts of law recognize as a necessary part of any rules and regulations. "Due Process" furthermore, and of primary importance, recognizes the rights of the individual since it outlines his recourse in the event he feels a wrong decision has been made. The "due process" steps outlined hereafter are the procedure for an athlete and his/her parents to follow appealing decisions relating to eligibility. It should be understood that athletes and parents will be expected to follow the "due process" steps in the event legal action should be initiated at some later date.

1. After a ruling of ineligibility resulting in a suspension from athletics has been made, an athlete and/or his/her parents may formally appeal the decision in writing to the athletic director provided an appeal is received within five (5) days from the first day such ineligibility shall take effect. When the student admits to violating the school's athletic code of conduct, immediate application of the penalty is appropriate. If, however, the student denies violating the code, the school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard prior to any penalty being enforced.

2. The athletic director within three (3) days of receipt of such written appeal shall formalize the ineligibility decision in writing and send a letter by registered mail to the parents outlining the specific details relating to (a) violation or infraction; (b) date of violation or infraction; (c) period of suspension; and (d) any other pertinent information.
3. After an appeal has been received and the school's formal reply mailed to the parents, a date for a hearing will be established by the principal. Such a date is no later than seven (7) days after receipt of the written appeal of the athlete and his/her parents. Present at the hearing, in addition to the athletic director, principal, and/or superintendent of the school, shall be the athlete and the parents and head coach of the sport.
  - a. The athlete will be provided with an opportunity to testify and present other evidence on his/her behalf at the hearing.
  - b. Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the athlete and his/her parents.
4. If the athlete and his/her parents are not satisfied with the findings of the hearing, a second hearing may be requested before the Board of Education. The athletic director or principal must receive in writing a request for such a hearing before the Board of Education within five (5) days of the mailing of the outcome of the original hearing.
5. If the athlete and his/her parents remain dissatisfied with the findings of the second hearing, a review by the Executive Office of the WIAA may be requested through the school. The athletic director or principal must receive in writing a request for such a review by the Executive Office of the WIAA within five (5) days of the mailing of the outcome of the second hearing. The athletic director or principal in forwarding the appeal letter of the athlete and his/her parents to the Executive Office of the WIAA shall also enclose a copy of the (a) original appeal letter from the athlete and parents; (b) school formal reply outlining violation or infraction leading to ineligibility status; and (c) proceedings of both hearings.
  - a. The Executive Office of the WIAA will inform the athletic director or principal of the school of the outcome of its review within seven (7) days after receiving from the school the

written appeal of the athlete and his/her parents.

- b. The athlete and his/her parents will be mailed a copy of the outcome of the review by the Executive Office of the WIAA.
- 6. If the athlete and his/her parents remain dissatisfied with the findings of the review by the Executive Office of WIAA, they may appeal in writing through the school for either a review by or at a hearing before, the Board of Control of the WIAA through the Executive Office of the WIAA. The athletic director or principal must receive the written request for such a review or hearing within fourteen (14) days of the mailing of the review by the Executive Office of the WIAA
  - a. The Board of Control will act on a request for a hearing no later than its first regularly scheduled meeting after receiving the written appeal through the school.
  - b. If requested by the athlete, his/her parents, or the athletic director or principal of the school, the Board of Control will convene via a conference telephone call to review an appeal with the understanding that the expense for such a conference telephone call is the responsibility of the parents of the athlete.
  - c. In the event of a hearing, the athlete and his/her parents will be given the opportunity to testify and present other evidence, and the school will be represented by any individuals deemed appropriate by the superintendent.
  - d. Proceedings of the hearings, including the decision, will be put in writing, and a copy of these proceedings, including the decision, will be provided for the athlete and his/her parents.
- 7. The provisions as outlined above shall be the sole and exclusive remedy for appeal from the rulings referred to in paragraph 1.

## **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

It is the policy of the Solon Springs School District that no person may be denied admission to any public school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil service, recreational, or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap as required by s.118.13, WI Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1963 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

For the protection of our athletes, participation in the practice of any sport will not be permitted until this signature page, WIAA Eligibility page, concussion education page, and a completed physical card have been submitted to the athletic director.

## **DUAL SPORT ATHLETES**

The Solon Springs School District allows its athletes to participate in two sports during the same season. To qualify, athletes must complete the following before the start of the sports season

1. Choose between the Primary/Secondary Plan and the Balanced Plan
  - a. **Primary/Secondary- Athlete designates their primary and secondary sports. Primary sports contests will take precedence over secondary sports.**
  - b. **Balanced- Athletes, with help from coaches, will choose which contests to participate in when there is a conflict. Athletes will still designate a primary sport, in case of schedule changes due to postponements, weather, etc.**
2. Create a season calendar
  - a. A calendar with all events (practices, games, meets, scrimmages, etc.) must be created and approved (signature) by the athlete & both coaches and submitted to the Athletic Director before the first practice.
3. Submit the completed application and calendar before the first practice date(s).

- **RULES FOR DUAL SPORT ATHLETES**

- The student-athlete will follow the calendar under all circumstances.
  - Any changes to the calendar should be made between both of the coaches, not the student-athlete. Coaches have authority over the calendar, not the student-athlete. All the changes are to be approved by both coaches and the athletic director.
- The student-athlete may not quit the primary sport and stay with the secondary sport.
- In the rare instance where it would be possible to participate in both sports on the same day, transportation would be the responsibility of the student's parents.
- Any co-curricular violations (academic or disciplinary) during either season will result in the student losing two sports privileges for the remainder of said season and any penalties will be applied to the primary sport.
- **If the student-athlete breaks his/her contract, he/she will forfeit any awards or recognition that would have been earned in the program.**



## Concussion Information - When in Doubt, Sit Them Out!

1. Before a student may participate in practice or competition: At the beginning of a season for a youth athletic activity, the person operating the youth athletic activity shall distribute a concussion and head injury information sheet to each person who will be coaching that youth athletic activity and to each person who wishes to participate in that youth athletic activity. No person may participate in a youth athletic activity unless the person returns the information sheet signed by the person and, if he or she is under the age of 19, by his or her parent or guardian.
2. An athletic coach, or official involved in a youth athletic activity, or health care provider shall remove a person from the youth athletic activity if the coach, official, or health care provider determines that the person exhibits signs, symptoms, or behavior consistent with a concussion or head injury or the coach, official, or health care provider suspects the person has sustained a concussion or head injury.
3. A person who has been removed from a youth athletic activity may not participate in a youth athletic activity until he or she is evaluated by a health care provider and receives a written clearance to participate in the activity from the health care provider.

| <b>These are some SIGNS concussion (what others can see in an injured athlete):</b>  | <b>These are some of the more common SYMPTOMS of concussion (what an injured athlete feels):</b>   |
|--|--|
| Dazed or stunned appearance<br>Change in the level of consciousness or awareness<br>Confused about assignment<br>Forgets plays<br>Unsure of the score, game, opponent<br>Clumsy<br>Answers more slowly than usual<br>Shows behavior changes<br>Loss of consciousness<br>Asks repetitive questions or memory concerns | Headache<br>Nausea<br>Dizzy or unsteady<br>Sensitive to light or noise<br>Feeling mentally foggy<br>Problems with concentration and memory<br>Confused<br>Slow |

Injured athletes can exhibit many or just a few of the signs and/or symptoms of concussion. However, if a player exhibits any signs or symptoms of concussion, the responsibility is simple: remove them from participation. "When in doubt sit them out."

It is important to notify a parent or guardian when an athlete is thought to have a concussion. Any athlete with a concussion must be seen by an appropriate health care provider before returning to practice (including weight lifting) or competition.

### RETURN TO PLAY

Current recommendations are for a stepwise return to play program. In order to resume activity, the athlete must be symptom-free and off any pain control or headache medications. The athlete should be carrying a full academic load without any significant accommodations. Finally, the athlete must have clearance from an appropriate health care provider.

The program described below is a guideline for returning concussed athletes when they are symptom-free. Athletes with multiple concussions and athletes with prolonged symptoms often require a very different return to activity program and should be managed by a physician that has experience in treating concussions.

The following program allows for one step per 24 hours. The program allows for a gradual increase in heart rate/physical exertion, and coordination, and then allows contact. If symptoms return, the athlete should stop the activity and notify their healthcare provider before progressing to the next level.

STEP ONE: About 15 minutes of light exercise: stationary biking or jogging

STEP TWO: More strenuous running and sprinting in the gym or field without equipment

STEP THREE: Begin non-contact drills in full uniform. May also resume weight lifting

STEP FOUR: Full practice with contact

STEP FIVE: Full game clearance

## **118.293 Concussion and head injury.**

(1) In this section:

(a) "Credential" means a license or certificate of certification issued by this state.

(b) "Health care provider" means a person to whom all of the following apply:

1. He or she holds a credential that authorizes the person to provide health care.

2. He or she is trained and has experience in evaluating and managing pediatric concussions and head injuries.

3. He or she is practicing within the scope of his or her credential.

(c) "Youth athletic activity" means an organized athletic activity in which the participants, a majority of whom are under 19 years of age, are engaged in an athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity, or in practice or preparation for an organized athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity. "Youth athletic activity" does not include a college or university activity or an activity that is incidental to a nonathletic program.

(2) In consultation with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, the department shall develop guidelines and other information for the purpose of educating athletic coaches and pupil athletes and their parents or guardians about the nature and risk of concussion and head injury in youth athletic activities.

(3) At the beginning of a season for a youth athletic activity, the person operating the youth athletic activity shall distribute a concussion and head injury information sheet to each person who will be coaching that youth athletic activity and to each person who wishes to participate in that youth athletic activity. No person may participate in a youth athletic activity unless the person returns the information sheet signed by the person and, if he or she is under the age of 19, by his or her parent or guardian.

(4) (a) An athletic coach, or official involved in a youth athletic activity, or health care provider shall remove a person from the youth athletic activity if the coach, official, or health care provider determines that the person exhibits signs, symptoms, or behavior consistent with a concussion or head injury or the coach, official, or health care provider suspects the person has sustained a concussion or head injury.

(b) A person who has been removed from a youth athletic activity under par. (a) may not participate in a youth athletic activity until he or she is evaluated by a health care provider and receives a written clearance to participate in the activity from the health care provider.

(5) (a) Any athletic coach, official involved in an athletic activity, or volunteer who fails to remove a person from a youth athletic activity under sub. (4) (a) is immune from civil liability for any injury resulting from that omission unless it constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(b) Any volunteer who authorizes a person to participate in a youth athletic activity under sub. (4) (b) is immune from civil liability for any injury resulting from that act unless the act constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(6) This section does not create any liability for, or a cause of action against, any person.

### **Possible Information Sheets:**

Coaches: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ConcussionCoaches.pdf>

Parents: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ConcussionParents.pdf>

Parents: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/NFHSParentGuide.pdf>

Athletes: <http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Health/ConcussionAthletes.pdf>

Order CDC materials: <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/pubs/ncipc.aspx#tbi4>