

I will help prevent concussions by:

- Wearing the proper equipment for my sport and wearing it correctly.
- Developing my skills and strength so that I can participate to the best of my ability.
- Respecting the rules of my sport or activity.
- My commitment to fair play and respect for all (e.g. respecting other athletes, coaches, team trainers and officials).

I will care for my health and safety by taking concussions seriously, and I understand that:

- A concussion is a brain injury that can have both short- and long-term effects.
- A blow to my head, face or neck, or a blow to the body that causes the brain to move around inside the skull may cause a concussion.
- I don't need to lose consciousness to have had a concussion.
- I have a commitment to concussion recognition and reporting, including,
 - Self-reporting of a possible concussion (e.g. If I think I might have a concussion I should stop participating in further training, practice or competition immediately)
 - Reporting to a designated person when an individual suspects that another individual may have sustained a concussion. (e.g. tell an adult if I think another participant may have a concussion).
- Continuing to participate in further training, practice or competition with a possible concussion increases my risk of more severe, longer lasting symptoms, including increased risk of other injuries.

I will not hide concussion symptoms and I will speak up for myself and others:

- I will not hide my symptoms. I will tell a coach, official, team trainer, parent or another adult I trust if I experience any symptoms of concussion.
- If someone else tells me about concussion symptoms, or I see signs they might have a concussion, I will tell a coach, official, team trainer, parent or another adult I trust so they can help.
- I understand that if I have a suspected concussion, I will be removed from sport and that I will not be able to return to training, practice or competition until I undergo a medical assessment by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner and have been medically cleared to return to training, practice or competition.
- I have a commitment to sharing any pertinent information regarding incidents of removal from sport with the athlete's school and any other sport organization with which the athlete has registered* (e.g. If I am diagnosed with a concussion, I



Participant Concussion Code of Conduct

understand that letting all of my other coaches and teachers know about my injury will help them support me while I recover.)

I will take the time I need to recover, because it is important for my health:

- I understand my commitment to supporting the return-to-sport or activity process
 - I will have to follow any applicable organizational Return-to-Sport Protocol or City standard operating procedure.
- I understand I will have to be medically cleared by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner before returning to training, practice or competition.
- I will respect my coaches, team trainers, parents, health-care professionals, and medical doctors and nurse practitioners, regarding my health and safety.

Removal from Sport or Program Protocol

- Any participant suspected of or confirmed to have a concussion, will immediately be removed from a program or activity including further training, practice or competition, regardless of whether or not the concussion was sustained from participating in an activity associated with the City (e.g. sustaining a head injury from playing football at school before attending a City program).
- I understand the following steps will be undertaken by City staff in the case of a suspected concussion:
 - 1. Follow applicable Standard First Aid training and the Accident, Incident and Customer Concern Reporting Procedures SOP.
 - Ensure that the participant with the concussion or suspected concussion is in a secure and/or safe location where they are able to sit or rest comfortably. Provide assistance as per Standard First Aid training.
 - If the participant exhibits any red flag signs or symptoms associated with a concussion (e.g. slurred speech, severe headache etc.), call 911 immediately as per Standard First Aid training.
 - 2. Obtain or ascertain the participant's name.
 - 3. If the participant is not accompanied by anyone or in the case of a minor, not accompanied by someone over the age of eighteen (18), contact an emergency contact to arrange for immediate pick-up.
 - Provide the participant with a link to this Participant Concussion Code of Conduct webpage on the City's website for more information.



Participant Concussion Code of Conduct

- 4. Advise the participant or their parent/guardian if under eighteen (18) years of age that the participant must provide confirmation of a completed medical assessment by a physician or nurse practitioner clearing them to return for unrestricted programming <u>before</u> they will be permitted to return to <u>any</u> City-run program or activity.
 - Advise them strongly to seek medical attention as a precaution even if they do not plan to return to a City run program or activity.
 - Encourage the participant to share and disclose a diagnosis to any other sport organization or school that they may also attend as appropriate.
- 5. Freeze their participant's account in the designated recreation registration system and issue a refund as appropriate for any missed sessions.
- 6. Fill out an Accident / Incident Report recording all relevant details about the incident in accordance with the Accident, Incident and Customer Concern Reporting Procedures SOP.

Return to Sport or Program Protocol

- Any participant that was removed from a recreation program or sport because of a confirmed or suspected concussion must show documentation confirming the following before being allowed to return:
 - Has undergone a medical assessment by a physician or nurse practitioner and has <u>not</u> been diagnosed as having a concussion, and;
 - Has been medically cleared to return to full <u>unrestricted programming</u> including training, practice or competition by the physician or nurse practitioner.
- I understand the following steps will be undertaken by City staff in the case of a suspected concussion:
 - 1. Remove any account freeze on the participant's account in the designated recreation registration system as applicable.