

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED: OCTOBER 22, 2015

REVISED: SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

DELAWARE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Definitions 24 P.S. Sec. 5322</p> <p>PIAA Sports Medicine Guidelines</p> <p>24 P.S. Sec. 5322</p> <p>Pol. 123</p> <p>Pol. 122</p> <p>Pol. 122</p> <p>Pol. 122, 123</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">123.1 CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT</p> <p>The Board recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of students participating in the district’s athletic programs. This policy has been developed to provide guidance for prevention, detection and treatment of concussions sustained by students while participating in an athletic activity.</p> <p>Appropriate medical professional shall mean all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A licensed physician of medicine (MD) or osteopathic medicine (DO) comfortable with current concussion management principles. 2. A licensed or certified health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and designated by a licensed MD or DO comfortable with current concussion management principles. 3. A licensed psychologist neuropsychologically trained in the evaluation and management of concussions or who has postdoctoral training in neuropsychology and specific training in the evaluation and management of concussions. <p>Athletic activity shall mean all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interscholastic athletics. 2. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations. 3. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.
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123.1 CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility 24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p>4. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.</p> <p>Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.</p>
<p>4. Guidelines 24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy, which shall include protocols for concussion management.</p> <p>The school shall hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for all competitors regarding concussions and other head injuries, the importance of proper concussion management, and how preseason baseline assessments can aid in the evaluation, management and recovery process. In addition to the student athletes, such meetings may include parents/guardians, coaches, other appropriate school officials, physicians, neuropsychologists, athletic trainers and physical therapists.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p><u>Removal From Play</u></p> <p>A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student's team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, licensed physical therapist or other official designated by the district, exhibits signs or symptoms of a concussion or traumatic brain injury while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p><u>Return to Play</u></p> <p>The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an appropriate medical professional and if recommended, undergoes a Return to Play Protocol.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p><u>Training</u></p> <p>All coaches shall annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity, complete a concussion management certification training course offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of State High School Associations or another provider approved by the Department of Health.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p><u>Penalties</u></p> <p>A coach found in violation of the provisions of this policy related to removal from play and return to play shall be subject to the following penalties:</p>

123.1 CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

1. For a **first** violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season.
2. For a **second** violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season and for the next season.
3. For a **third** violation, permanent suspension from coaching any athletic activity.

References:

Safety In Youth Sports Act – 24 P.S. Sec. 5321 et seq.

Board Policy – 122, 123

PIAA Sports Medicine Guidelines