

**Central High School
Student-Athlete Concussion Statement
2019-20**

- I understand that it is my responsibility to report all injuries and illnesses to my athletic trainer and/or team physician.

- I have read and understand the Concussion Fact Sheet

After reading the Concussion Fact Sheet, I am aware of the following information: (initial each line)

Parent Int. Student Int.

_____	_____	A concussion is a brain injury, which I am responsible for reporting to team physician or athletic trainer.
_____	_____	A concussion can affect my ability to perform everyday activities, and affect reaction time, balance, sleep and classroom performance.
_____	_____	You cannot see a concussion, but you might notice some of the symptoms right away. Other symptoms can show up hours or days after the injury.
_____	_____	If I suspect a teammate has a concussion, I am responsible for reporting the injury to my team physician or athletic trainer.
_____	_____	I will not return to play in a game or practice if I have received a blow to the head or body that results in concussion-related symptoms.
_____	_____	Following concussion the brain needs time to heal. You are much more likely to have a repeat concussion if you return to play before your symptoms resolve.
_____	_____	In rare cases, repeat concussions can cause permanent brain damage, and even death.
_____	_____	All athletes diagnosed with a concussion must have written clearance from a licensed physician on the approved LHSAA document before returning to competition.

Student-Athlete Printed Name

Date

Signature of Student-Athlete

Parent/Guardian's Printed Name

Parent/Guardian's Signature

****PLEASE TEAR OFF THIS FACT SHEET AND KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS****

CONCUSSION

A FACT SHEET FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

What is a concussion?

A concussion is a brain injury that:

- Is caused by a blow to the head or body.
 - From contact with another player, hitting a hard surface such as the ground, ice or floor, or being hit by a piece of equipment such as a bat, lacrosse stick or field hockey ball.
- Can change the way your brain normally works.
- Can range from mild to severe.
- Presents itself differently for each athlete.
- Can occur during practice or competition in ANY sport.
- Can happen even if you do not lose consciousness.

How can I prevent a concussion?

Basic steps you can take to protect yourself from concussion:

- Do not initiate contact with your head or helmet. You can still get a concussion if you are wearing a helmet.
- Avoid striking an opponent in the head. Undercutting, flying elbows, stepping on a head, checking an unprotected opponent, and sticks to the head all cause concussions.
- Follow your athletics department's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Practice good sportsmanship at all times.
- Practice and perfect the skills of the sport.

What are the symptoms of a concussion?

You can't see a concussion, but you might notice some of the symptoms right away. Other symptoms can show up hours or days after the injury.

Concussion symptoms include:

- Amnesia.
- Confusion.
- Headache.
- Loss of consciousness.
- Balance problems or dizziness.
- Double or fuzzy vision.
- Sensitivity to light or noise.
- Nausea (feeling that you might vomit).
- Feeling sluggish, foggy or groggy.
- Feeling unusually irritable.
- Concentration or memory problems (forgetting game plays, facts, meeting times).
- Slowed reaction time.

Exercise or activities that involve a lot of concentration, such as studying, working on the computer, or playing video games may cause concussion symptoms (such as headache or tiredness) to reappear or get worse.

What should I do if I think I have a concussion?

Don't hide it. Tell your athletic trainer and coach. Never ignore a blow to the head. Also, tell your athletic trainer and coach if one of your teammates might have a concussion. Sports have injury timeouts and player substitutions so that you can get checked out.

Report it. Do not return to participation in a game, practice or other activity with symptoms. The sooner you get checked out, the sooner you may be able to return to play.

Get checked out. Your team physician, athletic trainer, or health care professional can tell you if you have had a concussion and when you are cleared to return to play. A concussion can affect your ability to perform everyday activities, your reaction time, balance, sleep and classroom performance.

Take time to recover. If you have had a concussion, your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is still healing, you are much more likely to have a repeat concussion. In rare cases, repeat concussions can cause permanent brain damage, and even death. Severe brain injury can change your whole life.

**It's better to miss one game than the whole season.
When in doubt, get checked out.**