



## Injury Procedures for Coaches and Athletic Trainers

### General Notes

1. It is important that coaches, certified athletic trainers (ATCs), and athletics specialists (ADs) recognize and implement established protocol regarding athletic injuries.
2. Schools shall develop a strategy that allows access to emergency devices, including EpiPens and AEDs, at all times.
3. A school representative, parent/guardian, or parent representative shall escort students to emergency facilities in the event of a medical emergency.

### Minor Injuries (minor cuts, scrapes, bruises, sprains etc.)

1. The coach removes student-athlete from activity and assesses injury.
2. The coach refers student-athlete to the ATC, if the injury requires medical attention.
3. The ATC examines and if necessary treats student-athlete.
4. The ATC informs both the coach and the student-athlete when activity may be resumed.
5. The ATC provides follow-up recommendations to the student-athlete and coach.

### Major Injuries (broken bones, dislocations, significant lacerations etc.)

1. The coach removes the student-athlete from activity; assesses injury, and alerts the ATC.
2. The ATC assesses injury and takes action, including calling 911, as appropriate.
3. The ATC notifies the parent/guardian and coordinates transport to emergency facility (if applicable).
4. The ATC informs the AD, and assists the coach in creating and submitting an accident report.\*
5. The ATC follows up with the parent/guardian and student-athlete, as appropriate.

### Concussions

(More detailed procedures are in the MCPS Concussion Plan available on the Athletics Section of the MCPS Website.)

1. The coach removes the student-athlete from activity, assesses injury, and alerts the ATC.
2. The ATC examines the student-athlete and takes action, including calling 911, as appropriate.
3. The ATC notifies the parent/guardian about the possible concussion and advises parent/guardian to take their child to an authorized health care provider as soon as possible.
4. The ATC provides the parent/guardian with the appropriate MCPS form: *MSDE Medical Clearance for Student-Athlete Suspected Head Injury* form. \*
5. The ATC informs the AD and assists coach in creating and submitting an accident report. \*
6. The AD informs the school nurse.

7. The Nurse informs the AD and the ATC when student-athlete may begin a graduated return to play program as indicated on the *MSDE Medical Clearance for Student-Athlete Suspected Head Injury form*.

*\* If injury occurs at an away event, the coach assumes responsibility for notifying the parents/guardians about the injury, and works with his or her school ATC in completing an accident report.*