



Player Safety & Risk Acknowledgement / Participation Waiver

Purpose

The Washington Panthers Youth Football Program is committed to providing a safe, positive, and development-focused environment for every participant. Football, flag football, cheerleading, conditioning, camps, practices, games, travel, and related team activities involve inherent risks that cannot be completely eliminated despite proper coaching, certified equipment, and established safety procedures.

Acknowledgement of Risk

I understand participation may result in injuries including cuts, bruises, sprains, fractures, concussions, heat-related illness, dental injuries, spinal injuries, permanent disability, or, in rare circumstances, death. I voluntarily allow my child to participate with full knowledge of these risks.

Program Safety Standards

The Program follows USA Football athlete safety principles and applicable IHSA heat, lightning, and environmental safety recommendations. Coaches are expected to teach proper technique, properly fit equipment, remove injured athletes from participation when appropriate, and place athlete safety ahead of competitive success. Protective equipment helps reduce risk but cannot prevent every injury.

Parent & Athlete Responsibilities

I agree to provide accurate medical information, update emergency contacts, notify coaches of injuries or medical restrictions, and keep my child home when participation is unsafe. My child agrees to wear required equipment correctly, report injuries or symptoms immediately, follow coach instruction, and participate in a safe and sportsmanlike manner.

Emergency Authorization & Release

If I cannot be reached, I authorize emergency medical treatment deemed necessary for my child. I accept responsibility for medical expenses incurred. By signing below, I voluntarily assume the ordinary risks associated with participation and release the Washington Panthers Youth Football Program, its Board, coaches, volunteers, officials, sponsors, facilities, and affiliated organizations from liability for ordinary negligence to the fullest extent permitted by law. This release does not apply to gross negligence or willful misconduct.

Acknowledgement

I have read and understand this Player Safety & Risk Acknowledgement and voluntarily permit my child to participate in the Washington Panthers Youth Football Program.

Participant: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____