



HHA Concussion Protocol and Reporting 1-Pager

1. If a player exhibits any [signs, symptoms or behaviors](#) consistent with a concussion or are suspected of sustaining a concussion, the player must be immediately removed from any practice, training, or game.
2. Report the concussion or concussion like symptoms to WAHA using [this link](#). This link should be used after an athlete has been removed from athletic activity due to a concussion or a suspected concussion to report data to the WAHA Player Safety Coordinator.
 - a. Note: You do not need an official diagnosis of a concussion from a medical professional prior to your report to WAHA. If you remove a player for exhibiting signs, symptoms, or behavior consistent with a concussion, you must report using the link in step 2 above.
3. Upon completion of the report to WAHA, you will receive [a USA hockey concussion management return to play form](#). (RTP Form)
4. Complete the top section of the form and provide it to the player's parent/guardian.
 - a. Note: It is the parent's responsibility to have the player examined. Different medical providers will have different clearance requirements or return to play protocols. If asked, encourage the parents to consult their medical provider for next steps.
5. In addition to the USA Hockey Return to Play Form, provide the parents with a copy of [WAHA's Concussion Fact Sheet for Parents and Athletes](#).
6. Utilize the 5 step process outlined on page 3 of [this document](#) for return to practice protocol once the athlete is symptom free at home without physical activity.
7. In order to return to full participation without restriction, the RTP form must be completed and signed by a health care professional and signed by the parent/guardian.
8. The final step is for the coach to sign and date the RTP form and return it to the WAHA Safety Coordinator via email.

General Notes

1. Team managers can help with reporting, but the responsibility ultimately falls on the head coach to ensure this entire process is followed.
2. Be sure to communicate frequently with parents/guardians at both the pre-season meeting and if a concussion incident occurs to their player.
3. If a coach has concerns about the qualifications of the healthcare professional providing clearance to return to play, or questions about this process in general, please contact the VP of Hockey Operations.

Links/Resources

[WAHA Concussion Information and Protocol](#)

[WAHA/CDC Concussion Fact Sheet for Coaches](#)

[Concussion Fact Sheet for Players and Parents](#)