

To all Hudson Hoop Classic Coaches:

Hudson Kiwanis, organizer of the Hudson Hoop Classic, has opted to follow the policy recently adopted by the OHSAA regarding concussions among student athletes. We strive to run the best tournament in Northeast Ohio, and feel the health and safety of all of our young athletes is paramount.

The policy states that all adults involved with high school athletics (such as administrators, officials, and medical personnel) are responsible for knowing, understanding, and following this policy. Here are some of the highlights:

*“Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared **with written authorization** by an appropriate health care professional. In Ohio, an “appropriate health care professional” shall be a **physician** (doctors of medicine (M.D.) and doctors of osteopathy (D.O.)), or a certified **athletic trainer**.”*

In short, if a game referee recognizes concussion symptoms exhibited by a player he will inform the coach and parent that the athlete is to be sidelined for the day. This is NOT negotiation. The athlete will then not be allowed to play on subsequent days without proper written release by a physician or certified athletic trainer. We will have the proper forms on site for our game referees to complete as per OHSAA protocol.

Thank you in advance for your understanding as we work to compete safely. More information can be found at the internet link below.

Best Regards,
Andy Hinkle, Tournament Director

<http://www.ohsaa.org/concussionresources>