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- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges
- Association for Middle Level Education
- National Association of Elementary School Principals
- New England League of Middle Schools
- National Federation of State High School Associations

30 Realty Drive
Cheshire, CT 06410
Phone: (203)250-1111
FAX: (203)250-1345
www.casciac.org

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS

June 12, 2015

Dear CAS Member Principals,

As you know, recent legislative acts regarding youth concussions and sudden cardiac arrest syndrome have many implications for public schools. These statutory requirements go into effect on July 1, 2015. We would like to make you aware of several important documents that can assist you with the implementation of these requirements as well as CIAC rule changes which pertain to our member high schools.

Concussion Student and Parent Consent Form (State Law) - All students involved in interscholastic athletics, intramurals that are physical in nature and/or Unified Sports programs, as well as their parents/legal guardians, must be educated in the signs and symptoms of concussions AND they must sign an informed consent form prior to the start of each sport season or intramural activity. This statute applies to all students in grades Pre-K-12. Here is the link to that document in Word format. This document has been approved by the State Board of Education, so please do NOT change any content other than to insert your school name and your local/regional Board of Education policy. – <http://www.caadinc.org/ConcussionParentconsent2015-16.doc>

Concussion Annual Review for ALL Coaches (State Law) – This requirement applies to all coaches of interscholastic and intramural activities, pre-K-12. This annual review document, also accessible in Word format, has a space for you to insert your local/regional Board of Education policy. Beginning July 1, 2015, this “Coaches Concussion and Head Injury Annual Review” must include one of the three media sources recommended by the State Department of Education. The media source you select can be viewed as a group or as an individual. Please have each coach sign this document each year and keep it on file. – <http://www.caadinc.org/ConAnnRev2015-16.doc>

Cardiac Arrest Student and Parent Consent Form (State Law) – This is a requirement for all students and parents/legal guardians. This form must be signed prior to the start of each season. It is being provided in Word format so you can insert your school name. – <http://www.caadinc.org/SudCardArrestConsent.%206.2.2015.doc>

Cardiac Arrest Awareness Program and Annual Review for ALL Coaches (State Law) - This is the document you may use to satisfy the state law going into effect July 1, 2015. It should be reviewed, read and signed each year by each coach and you should keep it on file. – <http://www.caadinc.org/SudCardArrAnnRev15-16.doc>



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RIO (Reporting Injuries Online) for Football (CIAC Mandate) – Effective this fall, all football programs must report all football related injuries using the RIO system. Athletic directors are well aware of this requirement; they and their athletic trainers should have participated in the training sessions offered this spring. In order to be ready to start this fall, you must request a username and password. Here is the RIO information and the form for obtaining access to the site – <http://www.caadinc.org/RIOct.2015-16.pdf>

Contact Exposure Time for Football Athletes (CIAC Mandate) – Beginning this coming fall, 2015, contact exposure time is limited by week and there is a mandatory bye week mid-season where there is zero contact. Learn more - <http://www.caadinc.org/ContactLimits.pdf>

Counting Quarters for Football Athletes (CIAC Mandate) – Beginning this fall, 2015, football athletes are limited in the number of levels and quarters in which they can participate in any given week. Learn more - <http://caadinc.org/Countingquarters.pdf>

Practice Limitations (CIAC Mandate effective start of winter season 2015) – Beginning with the winter 2015-16 season, there are only 10 days of preseason practice required before your first contest. However, teams may not practice/compete on more than six consecutive days. Learn more - <http://www.caadinc.org/Practicedays.pdf>

Athletic directors and interscholastic coaches have received information about these new statutes on many occasions over the past two years. All certified coaches- elementary, middle and high school- should have completed the Concussion Education course offered by the CT High School Coaching Education Program. **Coaches are not permitted to coach until this course has been taken.** Please check with your school's athletic director or with your individual coaches to verify that they are cleared to coach after July 1, 2015.

While not all students, staff and parents are required by law to receive concussion awareness information/training, we recommend that it become part of your school's annual information sharing/delivery processes (i.e. back-to-school assembly, information packet, student-parent handbook, etc.) A link to Connecticut's Concussion Law (PA 14-66), along with other important information, can be found on our website <http://concussioncentral.ciacsports.com/pa14-66.pdf>

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Dr. Karissa L Niehoff

Karissa Niehoff
Executive Director