

SUBJECT: Concussions in Youth Athletes

APPLICABILITY: All individuals responsible for the safety of youth athletes that play at Hobgood Park

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I. Purpose

On April 23, 2013, Governor Deal signed HB 284 (“Return to Play Act”) into law (effective January 1, 2014). The law requires each public recreation facility to provide an information sheet to all youth athletes and parents at the time of registration. In addition, the law encourages public recreation facility to develop and implement a concussion management and return to play policy.

As public recreation facility, Hobgood Park provides an information sheet to all youth athletes and their parents at the time of registration. Hobgood Park has developed and implemented a concussion management and return to play policy.

II. Scope

This policy applies only to those individuals who are responsible for the safety of youth athletes that play at Hobgood Park.

III. Definitions


- A. Concussion – a type of traumatic brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works. A concussion is caused by bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth.
- B. Public Recreation Facility – a public facility that conducts organized youth activity requiring registration and a participation fee.
- C. Youth Athlete – participant in a youth athletic activity age 4 and under age 19 years of age.

IV. Policy

- A. Hobgood Park provides concussion information on Hobgood’s website at: hobgoodparkbaseball.com.

- B. At the time of registration, Hobgood Park requests all parents to read the “Concussion Awareness” policy and asks the parents to accept the “Concussion Awareness” waiver.
 - 1. The Hobgood Registrar verifies that each parent has accepted the waiver by running a “Concussion Awareness” report.
 - 2. If the parent has not accepted the waiver, the Hobgood Registrar sends an email to them requesting that they read the “Concussion Awareness” policy and accept the waiver.
 - 3. Players are unable to play until the parent has read the “Concussion Awareness” policy and accepted the waiver.
- C. All head coaches are required to complete the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s “Concussion Awareness” Training Program. After the initial training, only new head coaches must complete the training. After completing the training program, the head coach emails the training certificate to the Hobgood Registrar.
 - 1. The Hobgood Registrar maintains the training certificate and a spreadsheet of all individuals who have completed the “Concussion Awareness” training.
 - 2. The Hobgood Registrar sends “Concussion Awareness” spreadsheet to the Recreational Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, and League Directors.
 - 3. If a head coach has not completed the training by Opening Day, the team forfeits all games until the head coach has completed the training.
- D. A head coach, League Director, Deputy Commissioner, or Recreational Commission must remove an athlete from play if they suspect a youth athlete has a concussion. **Note:** The youth athlete is not allowed to play until the player has been cleared by a health care professional.

V. Approval/Revision

Approved: 
Tad Goss
Recreational Baseball Commissioner
Hobgood Park Baseball

Effective Date: 1-1-2014