



Injury Procedures for Coaches and Athletic Trainers

General Notes

1. It is important that coaches, certified athletic trainers (ATCs), and athletics specialists (ADs) recognize and implement established protocol regarding athletic injuries.
2. Schools shall develop a strategy that allows access to emergency devices, including EpiPens and AEDs, at all times.
3. A school representative, parent/guardian, or parent representative shall escort students to emergency facilities in the event of a medical emergency.

Minor Injuries (minor cuts, scrapes, bruises, sprains etc.)

1. The coach removes student-athlete from activity and assesses injury.
2. The coach refers student-athlete to the ATC, if the injury requires medical attention.
3. The ATC examines and if necessary treats student-athlete.
4. The ATC informs both the coach and the student-athlete when activity may be resumed.
5. The ATC provides follow-up recommendations to the student-athlete and coach.

Major Injuries (broken bones, dislocations, significant lacerations etc.)

1. The coach removes the student-athlete from activity; assesses injury, and alerts the ATC.
2. The ATC assesses injury and takes action, including calling 911, as appropriate.
3. The ATC notifies the parent/guardian and coordinates transport to emergency facility (if applicable).
4. The ATC informs the AD, and assists the coach in creating and submitting an accident report.*
5. The ATC follows up with the parent/guardian and student-athlete, as appropriate.

Concussions

(More detailed procedures are in the MCPS Concussion Plan available on the Athletics Section of the MCPS Website.)

1. The coach removes the student-athlete from activity, assesses injury, and alerts the ATC.
2. The ATC examines the student-athlete and takes action, including calling 911, as appropriate.
3. The ATC notifies the parent/guardian about the possible concussion and advises parent/guardian to take their child to an authorized health care provider as soon as possible.
4. The ATC provides the parent/guardian with the appropriate MCPS form: *MSDE Medical Clearance for Student-Athlete Suspected Head Injury* form. *
5. The ATC informs the AD and assists coach in creating and submitting an accident report. *
6. The AD informs the school nurse.

7. The Nurse informs the AD and the ATC when student-athlete may begin a graduated return to play program as indicated on the *MSDE Medical Clearance for Student-Athlete Suspected Head Injury form*.

** If injury occurs at an away event, the coach assumes responsibility for notifying the parents/guardians about the injury, and works with his or her school ATC in completing an accident report.*