

# NCHSAA Concussion Return to Play Form

This form is adapted from the Acute Concussion Evaluation (ACE) care plan on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control web site [www.cdc.gov/injury](http://www.cdc.gov/injury). All medical providers are encouraged to review this site if they have questions regarding the latest information on the evaluation and care of the athlete following a concussion injury. **Providers, please initial any recommendations that you select.**

Athlete's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Team / Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

## HISTORY OF INJURY

Person Completing Form (Circle One): Athletic Trainer | First Responder | Coach | Parent | Student

Date of Injury: \_\_\_\_\_  Please see attached information  Please see further history on back of this form

Did the athlete have:	(Circle one)	Duration / Resolution
Loss of consciousness or unresponsiveness?	YES   NO	Duration: _____
Seizure or convulsive activity?	YES   NO	Duration: _____
Balance problem / unsteadiness?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Dizziness?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Headache?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Nausea?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Emotional instability (abnormal laughing, crying, smiling, anger)?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Confusion?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Difficulty concentrating?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Vision Problems?	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO
Other:	YES   NO	IF YES, HAS THIS RESOLVED? YES   NO

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## PHYSICIAN RECOMMENDATIONS

This return to play plan is based on today's evaluation.

### RETURN TO SPORTS

PLEASE NOTE: →

1. Athletes must not return to practice or play the same day that their suspected concussion occurred.
2. Athletes should never return to play or practice if they still have **ANY symptoms** of concussion.
3. Athletes, be sure your coach/athletic trainer are aware of your injury & symptoms, and have contact information for treating physician.

### The following are the return to sports recommendations at the present time:

- SCHOOL (ACADEMICS):  May return to school now.  May return to school on \_\_\_\_\_.  Out of school until follow-up visit.
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION:  Do **NOT** return to PE class at this time.  May Return to PE class.
- SPORTS:  Do not return to sports practice or competition at this time.
- May gradually return to sports practice under supervision of the health care provider for your team or sport.
- May be advanced back to competition after phone conversation with attending physician.
- Must return to Physician for final clearance to return to competition.
- OR -  FULL CLEARANCE: May return to full participation in ALL activities (PE and Sports).

Return to this office on (date/time) \_\_\_\_\_  No follow-up needed.

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  See further follow-up information on back.

### Medical Office Information (Please Print/Stamp)

Physician' Name \_\_\_\_\_ Physician's Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 / Office Address \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Signature \_\_\_\_\_, M.D. | D.O. Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Gradual Return to Play Plan

Return to play should occur in gradual steps beginning with light aerobic exercise only to increase your heart rate (e.g. stationary cycle); moving to increasing your heart rate with movement (e.g. running); then adding controlled contact if appropriate; and finally return to sports competition. Pay careful attention to your symptoms and your thinking and concentration skills at each stage or activity. After completion of each step without recurrence of symptoms, you can move to the next level of activity the next day. **Move to the next level of activity only if you do not experience any symptoms at the present level.** If your symptoms return, let your health care provider know, return to the first level and restart the program gradually.

- Day 1:** Low levels of physical activity (i.e. symptoms do not come back during or after the activity).  
This includes walking, light jogging, light stationary biking, and light weightlifting (low weight – moderate reps, no bench, no squats).
- Day 2:** Moderate levels of physical activity with body/head movement.  
This includes moderate jogging, brief running, moderate intensity on the stationary cycle, moderate intensity weightlifting (reduce time and or reduced weight from your typical routine).
- Day 3:** Heavy non-contact physical activity.  
This includes sprinting/running, high intensity stationary cycling, completing the regular lifting routine, non-contact sport specific drills (agility – with 3 planes of movement).
- Day 4:** Sports Specific practice.
- Day 5:** Full contact in a controlled drill or practice.
- Day 6:** Return to competition.

