



Policy Title:	CONCUSSION POLICY		
Policy Number:	CONC-003	Effective Date:	23 Jan 2017
Purpose:	Where a concussion has occurred or suspected to have occurred, the welfare of the player, both in the short and long term, is the critical consideration.		

INTRODUCTION

In considering the best practice management of concussion in sport, the critical element remains the welfare of the player, both in the short and long term.

Any player with a suspected concussion should be IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM PLAY, and should not be returned to activity until they are assessed medically. Players with a suspected concussion should not be left alone and should not drive a motor vehicle.

It is recommended that, in all cases of suspected concussion, the player is referred to a medical professional for diagnosis and guidance as well as return to play decisions, even if the symptoms resolve.

Based on the above, Rosebud Heart Soccer Club Inc. has implemented the following concussion policy:

1. Any child (aged 5-17)/player (adult 18+) with concussion must be withdrawn from playing or training until formal clearance is given from a qualified doctor or hospital emergency room (ER).
2. The definition of formal clearance at this point is when:
 - ⇒ The doctor or hospital ER releases the player with a 'Head Injury' or 'Concussion' checklist.
 - ⇒ The doctor or hospital ER releases the child into the parents/guardians care with a 'Head Injury' or 'Concussion' checklist.
- 3a. Parents/guardians have full discretion, with referral to their 'checklist', as to whether their child can return to school/learning without worsening of symptoms.
- 3b. Players have full discretion, with referral to their 'checklist', as to whether they can return to normal duties/work without worsening of symptoms.
4. Following Step 3, players/parents/guardians use their discretion as to whether they/their child can return to training/sporting activities without worsening of symptoms with referral to their 'checklist'.
5. Players/Parents/Guardians are requested to communicate clearly and with full disclosure, with their coach/team manager as to their/their child's condition, return to work/normal duties/school and return to training without worsening of symptoms.
 - ⇒ Team Manager is to be pro-active in follow-up of the player's/child's progress and keep the coach informed.
6. The decision to play the player/child on match day is at the full discretion of the player, and in the case of a minor, their parent/guardians who have witnessed their child return to school/training or sporting activities without worsening of symptoms. This is to be discussed and decided with the Team Manager and Coach only, prior to match day.
 - ⇒ A written clearance form or the 'concussion checklist' must be signed by the parent/guardian and handed to the Team Manager for keeping with the Player Injury Report Form.