

CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy-Website Information

We are all learning more about the potential long term health implications related to concussions during an athlete's lifetime. The Catholic Youth Organization wants to ensure that coaches, parents and athletes have all the necessary concussion information before each athletic season.

With this in mind, the CYO is implementing a concussion education initiative and policy. The initiative is unique as it will address the nature and risks of concussions in the CYO athletic program to all coaches, parents and athletes.

It is extremely important that all coaches, parents and athletes know how to proceed should a concussion be suspected so as not to cause a more serious brain injury. Coaches and parents will receive the information regarding the CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy on the CYO website at the time of registration and athletes will receive the education information in a handout from their coaches prior to the start of each season.

The Catholic Youth Organization has partnered with the St. Vincent Sports Performance and the Athlete's Concussion Alliance to provide the tools and information regarding the CYO Concussion Education Initiative and Policy. It is the CYO's responsibility to provide this important information to coaches, parents, athletes, athletic directors and gym managers. In turn, it is their responsibility to help the CYO implement the Concussion Education Initiative and Policy in all CYO athletic programs.

Should an athlete sustain a concussion or exhibit signs of a concussion, steps need to be taken to ensure that he or she is given the most up to date care and are ensured a safe return to either practice or games. In order to accomplish this goal, the following steps should be followed before each CYO athletic season.

THE FIVE (5) POINTS LISTED BELOW WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE MIDDLE OF JULY, 2012

1. On the CYO Website at www.cyoarchindy.org under the Athletics link you will need to click on COACHES and to the right side of this link click on Concussion Education Initiative and Policy.
2. As participating families register players for CYO Sports using the online registration website, they will see the following.
 - a) All participating families will see the CYO concussion Policy and be required to accept/acknowledge it before being allowed to submit sports registrations;
 - b) Whenever families access their online sports registration account they will have access to the Concussion Education and Policy Information posted to the site by the CYO. It will be listed under the "Forms/Documents tab that appears on their sports account's main page.
3. As each season begins, we will email our coaches the website information for obtaining the Concussion Education Initiative and Policy.
4. Under the Athletic link you may also click on Concussion Education Initiative and Policy to retrieve all documents.