



Injury Procedures for Coaches and Athletic Trainers

General Notes

1. It is important that coaches, certified athletic trainers (ATCs), and athletic directors (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. Coach removes student-athlete from activity; assesses injury.
2. Coach refers student-athlete to ATC if the injury requires medical attention.
3. ATC examines and treats.
4. ATC informs coach that/when the student-athlete may resume play; informs student-athlete and coach of follow-up recommendations.
5. Follow up provided, as appropriate.

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

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

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

1. Coach removes student-athlete from activity; assesses injury, alerts ATC.
2. ATC examines and takes action, including calling 911, as appropriate.
3. ATC notifies parent; oversees transport to emergency facility (if applicable).
4. ATC provides parents with appropriate forms regarding head injury procedures. *
5. ATC informs AD; ATC assists coach in creating and submitting an accident report. *
6. AD informs school nurse.
7. Nurse informs AD and 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.