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.