

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS  
Attachment for Policy No. 123, 123.1, 123.2, 123.3

**Purpose:**

These procedures are adopted by the Division of Athletics to effectuate the mandates of Board of Education Policy 123, 123.1, 123.2, and 123.3.

**Definitions:**

Athletic activity shall mean all of the following:

1. Interscholastic athletics.
2. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with a school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.
3. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.

Appropriate medical professional shall mean all of the following:

1. A licensed physician who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
2. A licensed or certified health care professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and designated by a licensed physician trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
3. A licensed or certified athletic trainer (ATC) who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.

Sportsmanship shall mean all of the following:

1. A sport or athletic activity will be enjoyed for its own sake.
2. A sport or athletic activity will be enjoyed with proper consideration for fairness, ethics, and respect.
3. A sport or athletic activity will be enjoyed with a sense of fellowship with one's competitors.

## **Procedures:**

Any member school sponsoring an interscholastic athletic activity may hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for all competitors regarding concussions and other head injuries, the importance of proper concussion management, the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest, bullying and hazing, and sportsmanship. In addition to the student-athletes, such meetings may include parents/guardians, coaches, other appropriate school officials, physicians, athletic trainers, and content experts.

### Removal from Play

A student or coach who, as determined by the game official, appropriate medical professional, appropriate school administrator or Philadelphia Public League representative, exhibits any signs of a concussion, sudden cardiac arrest, bullying and hazing, or engages in any form of unsportsmanlike conduct while participating in an interscholastic athletic activity shall be removed from participation at that time.

Any student or coach known to have exhibited signs or symptoms of concussion, sudden cardiac arrest, bullying and hazing, or engaged in unsportsmanlike conduct behavior prior to or following an athletic activity shall be prevented from participating in athletic activities.

### Return to Play

The appropriate school administrator shall not return a student and/or coach to participation until the student and/or coach is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an appropriate medical professional or the Office of the President of the Philadelphia Public League. The Board of Education may designate a specific appropriate medical professional(s) to provide written clearance for return to participation. The student and/or coach may be required to complete any mandatory online training coursework through the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHSLearn) prior to their return to play.

### Training

All coaches shall annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity, complete the (1) Concussion in Sports; (2) Sudden Cardiac Arrest; (3) Bullying, Hazing & Inappropriate Behaviors; and the (4) Sportsmanship certification training courses offered by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHSLearn - [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com)).

## Penalties

A student or coach found in violation of the provisions of this policy related to removal from play and return to play shall be subject to the following penalties, as enforced by the Philadelphia Public League:

1. For a first violation, suspension from participation in or coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season.
2. For a second violation, suspension from participation in or coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season and for the next season.
3. For a third violation, permanent suspension from participation in or coaching any athletic activity.

## **Maintenance Schedule:**

Administrative procedures will be reviewed in accordance with the Interscholastic Athletics policy cycle, or if an event requires additional review.

## **Related Policies:**

Policy 122

Policy 123

Policy 123.1

Policy 123.2

Policy 123.3

Policy 218

Policy 300

Policy 247

Policy 249