

# ATHLETE REGISTRATION FORM

**Special Olympics**



State Special Olympics Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Area/Delegation: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a new athlete to Special Olympics or Re-Registering?  New Athlete  Re-Registering

<b>ATHLETE INFORMATION</b>		
First Name:	Middle Name:	
Last Name:	Preferred Name:	
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy):	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Male
Race/Ethnicity (Optional):		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Two or More Races
<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
<input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino (specific origin group: _____)	
Language(s) Spoken in Athlete's Home (Optional): Check all that apply		
<input type="checkbox"/> English	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list): _____
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone:	E-mail:	
Sports/Activities:		
Athlete Employer, if any (Optional):		
Does the athlete have the capacity to consent to medical treatment on his or her own behalf? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<b>PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION (required if minor or otherwise has a legal guardian)</b>		
Name:		
Relationship:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Same Contact Info as Athlete		
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone:	E-mail:	
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Same as Parent/Guardian		
Name:		
Phone:	Relationship:	
<b>PHYSICIAN &amp; INSURANCE INFORMATION</b>		
Physician Name:		
Physician Phone:		
Insurance Company:	Insurance Policy Number:	
Insurance Group Number:		

# ATHLETE RELEASE FORM

**Special Olympics**



I agree to the following:

1. **Ability to Participate.** I am physically able to take part in Special Olympics activities.
2. **Likeness Release.** I give permission to Special Olympics, Inc., Special Olympics games organizing committees, and Special Olympics accredited Programs (collectively "Special Olympics") to use my likeness, photo, video, name, voice, words, and biographical information to promote Special Olympics and raise funds for Special Olympics.
3. **Risk of Concussion and Other Injury.** I know there is a risk of injury. I understand the risk of continuing to play sports with or after a concussion or other injury. I may have to get medical care if I have a suspected concussion or other injury. I also may have to wait 7 days or more and get permission from a doctor before I start playing sports again.
4. **Emergency Care.** If I am unable, or my guardian is unavailable, to consent or make medical decisions in an emergency, I authorize Special Olympics to seek medical care on my behalf, unless I mark one of these boxes:
  - I have a religious or other objection to receiving medical treatment. (Not common.)
  - I do not consent to blood transfusions. (Not common.)
 (If either box is marked, an EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE REFUSAL FORM must be completed.)
5. **Overnight Stay.** For some events, I may stay in a hotel or someone's home. If I have questions, I will ask.
6. **Health Programs.** If I take part in a health program, I consent to health activities, screenings, and treatment. This should not replace regular health care. I can say no to treatment or anything else at any time.
7. **Personal Information.** I understand that Special Olympics will be collecting my personal information as part of my participation, including my name, image, address, telephone number, health information, and other personally identifying and health related information I provide to Special Olympics ("personal information").
  - I agree and consent to Special Olympics:
    - using my personal information in order to: make sure I am eligible and can participate safely; run trainings and events; share competition results (including on the Web and in news media); provide health treatment if I participate in a health program; analyze data for the purposes of improving programming and identifying and responding to the needs of Special Olympics participants; perform computer operations, quality assurance, testing, and other related activities; and provide event-related services.
    - using my contact information for communicating with me about Special Olympics.
    - sharing my personal information confidentially with (i) researchers such as universities and public health agencies that are studying intellectual disabilities and the impact of Special Olympics activities, (ii) medical professionals in an emergency, and (iii) government authorities for the purpose of assisting me with any visas required for international travel to Special Olympics events and for any other purpose necessary to protect public safety, respond to government requests, and report information as required by law.
  - I have the right to ask to see my personal information or to be informed about the personal information that is processed about me. I have the right to ask to correct and delete my personal information, and to restrict the processing of my personal information if it is inconsistent with this consent.
  - *Privacy Policy.* Personal information may be used and shared consistent with this form and as further explained in the Special Olympics privacy policy at [www.SpecialOlympics.org/Privacy-Policy](http://www.SpecialOlympics.org/Privacy-Policy).

<b>Athlete Name:</b>	
<b>ATHLETE SIGNATURE</b> (required for adult athlete with capacity to sign legal documents)	
I have read and understand this form. If I have questions, I will ask. By signing, I agree to this form.	
<b>Athlete Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE</b> (required for athlete who is a minor or lacks capacity to sign legal documents)	
I am a parent or guardian of the athlete. I have read and understand this form and have explained the contents to the athlete as appropriate. By signing, I agree to this form on my own behalf and on behalf of the athlete.	
<b>Parent/Guardian Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Printed Name:</b>	<b>Relationship:</b>

# Athlete Medical Form – HEALTH HISTORY

(To be completed by the athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver and brought to exam)

**Special  
Olympics**



Athlete First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

Female  Male

STATE PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## ASSOCIATED CONDITIONS - Does the athlete have (check any that apply):

- Autism  Down Syndrome  Fragile X Syndrome  
 Cerebral Palsy  Fetal Alcohol Syndrome  
 Other Syndrome, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

## ALLERGIES & DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

- No Known Allergies  
 Latex  
 Medications: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Insect Bites or Stings: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Food: \_\_\_\_\_

## ASSISTIVE DEVICES - Does the athlete use (check any that apply):

- Brace  Colostomy  Communication Device  
 C-PAP Machine  Crutches or Walker  Dentures  
 Glasses or Contacts  G-Tube or J-Tube  Hearing Aid  
 Implanted Device  Inhaler  Pacemaker  
 Removable Prosthetics  Splint  Wheel Chair

List any special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

## SPORTS PARTICIPATION

List all Special Olympics sports the athlete wishes to play: \_\_\_\_\_

Has a doctor ever limited the athlete's participation in sports?

No  Yes

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

## SURGERIES, INFECTIONS, VACCINES

List all past surgeries: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the athlete currently have any chronic or acute infection?

No  Yes

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the athlete ever had an abnormal Electrocardiogram (EKG) or Echocardiogram (Echo)? If yes, describe date and results

Yes, had abnormal EKG

Yes, had abnormal Echo

Has the athlete had a Tetanus vaccine in the past 7 years?  No  Yes

## EPILEPSY AND/OR SEIZURE HISTORY

Epilepsy or any type of seizure disorder  No  Yes

If yes, list seizure type: \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, had seizure during the past year?  No  Yes

## MENTAL HEALTH

Self-injurious behavior during the past year  No  Yes Depression (diagnosed)  No  Yes

Aggressive behavior during the past year  No  Yes Anxiety (diagnosed)  No  Yes

Describe any additional mental health concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

## FAMILY HISTORY

Has any relative died of a heart problem before age 50?  No  Yes

Has any family member or relative died while exercising?  No  Yes

List all medical conditions that run in the athlete's family: \_\_\_\_\_

# Athlete Medical Form – HEALTH HISTORY

(To be completed by the athlete or parent/guardian/caregiver and brought to Exam)



Athlete's First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## HAS THE ATHLETE EVER BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH OR EXPERIENCED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS

Loss of Consciousness	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	High Blood Pressure	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Stroke/TIA	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Dizziness during or after exercise	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	High Cholesterol	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Concussions	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Headache during or after exercise	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Vision Impairment	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Chest pain during or after exercise	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Hearing Impairment	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Shortness of breath during or after exercise	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Enlarged Spleen	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Hepatitis	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Irregular, racing or skipped heart beats	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Single Kidney	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Urinary Discomfort	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Congenital Heart Defect	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Osteoporosis	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Spina Bifida	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Heart Attack	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Osteopenia	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Arthritis	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Cardiomyopathy	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Sickle Cell Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Heat Illness	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Heart Valve Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Sickle Cell Trait	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Broken Bones	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Heart Murmur	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Easy Bleeding	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Dislocated Joints	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Endocarditis	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If female athlete, list date of last menstrual period: _____			

Describe any past broken bones or dislocated joints (if yes is checked for either of those fields above): \_\_\_\_\_

List any other ongoing or past medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

## Neurological Symptoms for Spinal Cord Compression and Atlanto-axial Instability

Difficulty controlling bowels or bladder	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Numbness or tingling in legs, arms, hands or feet	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Weakness in legs, arms, hands or feet	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Burner, stinger, pinched nerve or pain in the neck, back, shoulders, arms, hands, buttocks, legs or feet	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Head Tilt	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Spasticity	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Paralysis	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	If yes, is this new or worse in the past 3 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

## PLEASE LIST ANY MEDICATION, VITAMINS OR DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS BELOW

(includes inhalers, birth control or hormone therapy)

Medication, Vitamin or Supplement Name	Dosage	Times per Day	Medication, Vitamin or Supplement Name	Dosage	Times per Day	Medication, Vitamin or Supplement Name	Dosage	Times per Day

Is the athlete able to administer his or her own medications?  No  Yes

Name of Person Completing this Form    Relationship to Athlete    Phone    Email

# Athlete Medical Form – PHYSICAL EXAM

(To be completed by a Licensed Medical Professional qualified to conduct exams & prescribe medications)



Athlete's First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEDICAL PHYSICAL INFORMATION

(To be completed by a Licensed Medical Professional qualified to conduct physical exams and prescribe medications)

Height	Weight	BMI (optional)	Temperature	Pulse	O <sub>2</sub> Sat	Blood Pressure (in mmHg)		Vision		
cm	kg	BMI	C			BP Right:	BP Left:	Right Vision 20/40 or better <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
in	lbs	Body Fat %	F					Left Vision 20/40 or better <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		

Right Hearing (Finger Rub) <input type="checkbox"/> Responds <input type="checkbox"/> No Response <input type="checkbox"/> Can't Evaluate	Bowel Sounds <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Left Hearing (Finger Rub) <input type="checkbox"/> Responds <input type="checkbox"/> No Response <input type="checkbox"/> Can't Evaluate	Hepatomegaly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Right Ear Canal <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Cerumen <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Body	Splenomegaly <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Left Ear Canal <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Cerumen <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Body	Abdominal Tenderness <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> RUQ <input type="checkbox"/> RLQ <input type="checkbox"/> LUQ <input type="checkbox"/> LLQ
Right Tympanic Membrane <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Perforation <input type="checkbox"/> Infection <input type="checkbox"/> NA	Kidney Tenderness <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Right <input type="checkbox"/> Left
Left Tympanic Membrane <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Perforation <input type="checkbox"/> Infection <input type="checkbox"/> NA	Right upper extremity reflex <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Diminished <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperreflexia
Oral Hygiene <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Left upper extremity reflex <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Diminished <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperreflexia
Thyroid Enlargement <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Right lower extremity reflex <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Diminished <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperreflexia
Lymph Node Enlargement <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Left lower extremity reflex <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Diminished <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperreflexia
Heart Murmur (supine) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 1/6 or 2/6 <input type="checkbox"/> 3/6 or greater	Abnormal Gait <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, describe below
Heart Murmur (upright) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 1/6 or 2/6 <input type="checkbox"/> 3/6 or greater	Spasticity <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, describe below
Heart Rhythm <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular	Tremor <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, describe below
Lungs <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Not clear	Neck & Back Mobility <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Not full, describe below
Right Leg Edema <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 1+ <input type="checkbox"/> 2+ <input type="checkbox"/> 3+ <input type="checkbox"/> 4+	Upper Extremity Mobility <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Not full, describe below
Left Leg Edema <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 1+ <input type="checkbox"/> 2+ <input type="checkbox"/> 3+ <input type="checkbox"/> 4+	Lower Extremity Mobility <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Not full, describe below
Radial Pulse Symmetry <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> R>L <input type="checkbox"/> L>R	Upper Extremity Strength <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Not full, describe below
Cyanosis <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, describe	Lower Extremity Strength <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Not full, describe below
Clubbing <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, describe	Loss of Sensitivity <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, describe below

### SPINAL CORD COMPRESSION & ATLANTO-AXIAL INSTABILITY (AAI) (Select one)

- Athlete shows **NO EVIDENCE** of neurological symptoms or physical findings associated with spinal cord compression or atlanto-axial instability.
- OR**
- Athlete has neurological symptoms or physical findings that could be associated with spinal cord compression or atlanto-axial instability and **must receive an additional neurological evaluation** to rule out additional risk of spinal cord injury prior to clearance for sports participation.

### ATHLETE CLEARANCE TO PARTICIPATE (TO BE COMPLETED BY EXAMINER ONLY)

Licensed Medical Examiners: It is recommended that the examiner review items on the medical history with the athlete or their guardian, prior to performing the physical exam. If an athlete needs further medical evaluation please make a referral below and second physician for referral should complete page 4.

- This athlete is **ABLE** to participate in Special Olympics sports without restrictions.
- This athlete is **ABLE** to participate in Special Olympics sports **WITH** restrictions. Describe → \_\_\_\_\_
- This athlete **MAY NOT** participate in Special Olympics sports at this time & **MUST** be further evaluated by a physician for the following concerns:
- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concerning Cardiac Exam       | <input type="checkbox"/> Acute Infection                  | <input type="checkbox"/> O <sub>2</sub> Saturation Less than 90% on Room Air |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concerning Neurological Exam  | <input type="checkbox"/> Stage II Hypertension or Greater | <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatomegaly or Splenomegaly                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please describe: _____ |   |  |

### Additional Licensed Examiner's Notes and Recommended (but not required) Follow-up:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a cardiologist      | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a neurologist        | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a primary care physician      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a vision specialist | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a hearing specialist | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a dentist or dental hygienist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a podiatrist        | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a physical therapist | <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up with a nutritionist                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other/Exam Notes: _____            |  |   |

<b>Signature of Licensed Medical Examiner</b>	Name:	Phone:	License #:	
	E-mail:	Exam Date		

# Athlete Medical Form – MEDICAL REFERRAL FORM

(To be completed by a Licensed Medical Professional only if referral is needed)



Athlete's First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

This page only needs to be completed and signed if the physician on page three does not clear the athlete and indicates further evaluation is required.

Athlete should bring the previously completed pages to the appointment with the specialist.

Examiner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty: \_\_\_\_\_

I have been asked to perform an additional athlete exam for the following medical concern(s) - *Please describe:*

- Concerning Cardiac Exam       Acute Infection       O<sub>2</sub> Saturation Less than 90% on Room Air  
 Concerning Neurological Exam       Stage II Hypertension or Greater       Hepatomegaly or Splenomegaly  
 Other, please describe:

**In my professional opinion, this athlete MAY now participate in Special Olympics sports (indicate restrictions or limitations below):**

- Yes       Yes, but with restrictions (*list below*)       No

Additional Examiner Notes/Restrictions:

Examiner E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Examiner Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

License: \_\_\_\_\_

**Examiner's Signature**

**Date**

**This section to be completed by Special Olympics staff only, if applicable.**

- This medical exam was completed at a MedFest event?       Yes       No  
The athlete is a Unified Partner or a Young Athlete Participant?       Unified Partner       Young Athlete



**Educational Material for Parents/Legal Guardians and Athletes**  
**(Content Meets MDH Requirements)**

Sources: Michigan Department of Community Health, CDC and the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE)

**UNDERSTANDING CONCUSSION**

Headache	Pressure in the Head	Nausea/Vomiting	Dizziness
Balance Problems	Double Vision	Blurry Vision	Sensitive to Light
Sensitivity to Noise	Sluggishness	Haziness	Fogginess
Poor Concentration	Memory Problems	Confusion	"Feeling Down"
Not "Feeling Right"	Feeling Irritable	Slow Reaction Time	Sleep Problems Grogginess

**WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?**

A **concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury** that changes the way the brain normally works. A concussion is caused by a fall, bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. A concussion can be caused by a shaking, spinning or a sudden stopping and starting of the head. Even a "ding," "getting your bell rung," or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious. A concussion can happen even if you haven't been knocked out.

You can't see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussions can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days or weeks after the injury. If the athlete reports any symptoms of a concussion, or if you notice symptoms yourself, seek medical attention right away. An athlete who may have had a concussion should not return to play on the day of the injury and until a health care professional says they are okay to return to play.

**IF YOU SUSPECT A CONCUSSION:**

- SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION RIGHT AWAY** - A health care professional will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for the athlete to return to regular activities, including sports. Don't hide it, report it. Ignoring symptoms and trying to "tough it out" often makes it worse.
- KEEPING YOUR ATHLETE OUT OF PLAY** - Concussions take time to heal. Don't let the athlete return to play the day of injury and until a health care professional says it's okay. An athlete who returns to play too soon, while the brain is still healing, risks a greater chance of having a second concussion. Young children and teens are more likely to get a concussion and take longer to recover than adults. Repeat or second concussions increase the time it takes to recover and can be very serious. They can cause permanent brain damage, affecting the athlete for lifetime. They can be fatal. It is better to miss one game than the whole season.
- TELL THE COACH ABOUT ANY PREVIOUS CONCUSSION** - Coaches should know if an athlete had a previous concussion. An athlete's coach may not know about a concussion received in another sport or activity unless you notify them.

**SIGNS OBSERVED BY PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIANS:**

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- Can't recall events prior to or after a hit
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows mood or behavior, or personality changes

**CONCUSSION DANGER SIGNS:**

In rare cases, a dangerous blood clot may form on the brain in a person with a concussion and crowd the brain against the skull. An athlete should receive immediate medical attention if after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body s/he exhibits any of the following danger signs:

- One pupil larger than the other
- Is drowsy or cannot be awoken
- A headache that gets worse
- Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination
- Repeated vomiting or nausea
- Slurred speech
- Convulsions or seizures
- Cannot recognize people/places
- Becomes increasingly confused,
- Has unusual behavior
- Loses consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously.)

**HOW TO RESPOND TO A REPORT OF A CONCUSSION:**

If an athlete reports one or more symptoms of a concussion after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body, s/he should be kept out of athletic play the day of the injury. The athlete should only return to play with permission from a health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion. During recovery, rest is key. Exercising or activities that involve a lot of concentration (such as studying, working on the computer, or playing video games) may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. Athletes who return to sports after a concussion may need to take rests breaks and be given extra help and time. After a concussion, returning to sports is a gradual process that should be monitored by a health care professional. **If a concussion is diagnosed you must have a release form to return to play.**

Remember: Concussion affects people differently. While most athletes with a concussion recover quickly and fully, some will have symptoms that last for days, or even weeks. A more serious concussion can last for months or longer. To learn more, go to [www.cdc.gov/concussion](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion).

**Parents/Legal Guardians and Athletes (under 18) Must Sign and Return the Application for Participation Form**