



# Consent and Release from Liability Certificate (Page 1 of 3)

This completed form must be kept on file by the school. This form is valid for 365 calendar days from the date of the most recent signature. **This form is non-transferable; a change of schools during the validity period of this form will require this form to be re-submitted.**

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Part 1. Student Acknowledgment and Release (to be signed by student at the bottom)

I know of no reason why I am not eligible to represent my school in interscholastic athletic competition. If accepted as a representative, I agree to follow the rules of my school and the SDMC and to abide by their decisions. I know that athletic participation is a privilege. I know of the risks involved in athletic participation, understand that serious injury, including the potential for a concussion, and even death, is possible in such participation, and choose to accept such risks. I voluntarily accept any and all responsibility for my own safety and welfare while participating in athletics, with full understanding of the risks involved. I hereby release and hold harmless my school, the schools against which it competes, the school district and the contest officials of any and all responsibility and liability for any injury or claim resulting from such athletic participation and agree to take no legal action against the SDMC because of any accident or mishap involving my athletic participation. I hereby authorize the use or disclosure of my individually identifiable health information should treatment for illness or injury become necessary. I hereby grant to the SDMC the right to review all records relevant to my athletic eligibility including, but not limited to, my records relating to enrollment and attendance, academic standing, age, discipline, finances, residence and physical fitness. I hereby grant the released parties the right to photograph and/or videotape me and further to use my name, face, likeness, voice and appearance in connection with exhibitions, publicity, advertising, promotional and commercial materials without reservation or limitation. The released parties, however, are under no obligation to exercise said rights herein. I understand that the authorizations and rights granted herein are voluntary and that I may revoke any or all of them at any time by submitting said revocation in writing to my school. By doing so, however, I understand that I will no longer be eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics.

### Part 2. Parental/Guardian Consent, Acknowledgment and Release (to be completed and signed by a parent(s)/guardian(s) at the bottom; where divorced or separated, parent/guardian with legal custody must sign.)

A. I hereby give consent for my child/ward to participate in any SDMC recognized or sanctioned sport **EXCEPT** for the following sport(s):

#### B. List sport(s) exceptions here

C. I understand that participation may necessitate an early dismissal from classes.

D. I know of, and acknowledge that my child/ward knows of, the risks involved in interscholastic athletic participation, understand that serious injury, and even death, is possible in such participation and choose to accept any and all responsibility for his/her safety and welfare while participating in athletics. With full understanding of the risks involved, I release and hold harmless my child's/ward's school, the schools against which it competes, the school district and the contest officials and of any and all responsibility and liability for any injury or claim resulting from such athletic participation and agree to take no legal action against the SDMC because of any accident or mishap involving the athletic participation of my child/ward. I authorize emergency medical treatment for my child/ward should the need arise for such treatment while my child/ward is under the supervision of the school. I further hereby authorize the use or disclosure of my child's/ward's individually identifiable health information should treatment for illness or injury become necessary. I consent to the disclosure to the SDMC, upon its request, of all records relevant to my child/ward's athletic eligibility including, but not limited to, records relating to enrollment and attendance, academic standing, age, discipline, finances, residence and physical fitness. I grant the released parties the right to photograph and/or videotape my child/ward and further to use said child's/ward's name, face, likeness, voice and appearance in connection with exhibitions, publicity, advertising, promotional and commercial materials without reservation or limitation. The released parties, however, are under no obligation to exercise said rights herein.

E. I am aware of the potential danger of concussions and/or head and neck injuries in interscholastic athletics. I also have knowledge about the risk of continuing to participate once such an injury is sustained without proper medical clearance.

**READ THIS FORM COMPLETELY AND CAREFULLY. YOU ARE AGREEING TO LET YOUR MINOR CHILD ENGAGE IN A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS ACTIVITY. YOU ARE AGREEING THAT, EVEN IF MY CHILD'S/WARD'S SCHOOL, THE SCHOOLS AGAINST WHICH IT COMPETES, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CONTEST OFFICIALS USES REASONABLE CARE IN PROVIDING THIS ACTIVITY, THERE IS A CHANCE YOUR CHILD MAY BE SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED BY PARTICIPATING IN THIS ACTIVITY BECAUSE THERE ARE CERTAIN DANGERS INHERENT IN THE ACTIVITY WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED OR ELIMINATED. BY SIGNING THIS FORM YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR CHILD'S RIGHT AND YOUR RIGHT TO RECOVER FROM MY CHILD'S/WARD'S SCHOOL, THE SCHOOLS AGAINST WHICH IT COMPETES, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CONTEST OFFICIALS IN A LAWSUIT FOR ANY PERSONAL INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, TO YOUR CHILD OR ANY PROPERTY DAMAGE THAT RESULTS FROM THE RISKS THAT ARE A NATURAL PART OF THE ACTIVITY. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO RE-FUSE TO SIGN THIS FORM, AND MY CHILD'S/WARD'S SCHOOL, THE SCHOOLS AGAINST WHICH IT COMPETES, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CONTEST OFFICIALS HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE TO LET YOUR CHILD PARTICIPATE IF YOU DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM.**

E. I understand that the authorizations and rights granted herein are voluntary and that I may revoke any or all of them at any time by submitting said revocation in writing to my school. By doing so, however, I understand that my child/ward will no longer be eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics.

### I HAVE READ THIS CAREFULLY AND KNOW IT CONTAINS A RELEASE (Only one parent/guardian signature is required)

Name of Parent/Guardian (printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian (printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### I HAVE READ THIS CAREFULLY AND KNOW IT CONTAINS A RELEASE (student must sign)

Name of Student (printed) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



# Consent and Release from Liability Certificate for Concussions (Page 2 of 3)

This completed form must be kept on file by the school. This form is valid for 365 calendar days from the date of the most recent signature.

School: \_\_\_\_\_ School District (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

## Concussion Information

Concussion is a brain injury. Concussions, as well as all other head injuries, are serious. They can be caused by a bump, a twist of the head, sudden deceleration or acceleration, a blow or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with force transmitted to the head. You can't see a concussion, and more than 90% of all concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. All concussions are potentially serious and, if not managed properly, may result in complications including brain damage and, in rare cases, even death. Even a "ding" or a bump on the head can be serious. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, your child should be immediately removed from play, evaluated by a medical professional and cleared by a medical doctor.

### Signs and Symptoms of a Concussion:

Concussion symptoms may appear immediately after the injury or can take several days to appear. Studies have shown that it takes on average 10-14 days or longer for symptoms to resolve and, in rare cases or if the athlete has sustained multiple concussions, the symptoms can be prolonged. Signs and symptoms of concussion can include: (not all-inclusive)

- Vacant stare or seeing stars
- Lack of awareness of surroundings
- Emotions out of proportion to circumstances (inappropriate crying or anger)
- Headache or persistent headache, nausea, vomiting
- Altered vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Delayed verbal and motor responses
- Disorientation, slurred or incoherent speech
- Dizziness, including light-headedness, vertigo(spinning) or loss of equilibrium (being off balance or swimming sensation)
- Decreased coordination, reaction time
- Confusion and inability to focus attention
- Memory loss
- Sudden change in academic performance or drop in grades
- Irritability, depression, anxiety, sleep disturbances, easy fatigability
- In rare cases, loss of consciousness

### DANGERS if your child continues to play with a concussion or returns too soon:

Athletes with signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from activity (play or practice) immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to sustaining another concussion. Athletes who sustain a second concussion before the symptoms of the first concussion have resolved and the brain has had a chance to heal are at risk for prolonged concussion symptoms, permanent disability and even death (called "Second Impact Syndrome" where the brain swells uncontrollably). There is also evidence that multiple concussions can lead to long-term symptoms, including early dementia.

### Steps to take if you suspect your child has suffered a concussion:

Any athlete suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the activity immediately. No athlete may return to activity after an apparent head injury or concussion, regardless of how mild it seems or how quickly symptoms clear, without written medical clearance from an appropriate health-care professional (AHCP). In Florida, an appropriate health-care professional (AHCP) is defined as either a licensed physician (MD, as per Chapter 458, Florida Statutes), a licensed osteopathic physician (DO, as per Chapter 459, Florida Statutes). Close observation of the athlete should continue for several hours. You should also seek medical care and inform your child's coach if you think that your child may have a concussion. Remember, it's better to miss one game than to have your life changed forever. When in doubt, sit them out.

### Return to play or practice:

Following physician evaluation, the *return to activity process* requires the athlete to be completely symptom free, after which time they would complete a step-wise protocol under the supervision of a licensed athletic trainer, coach or medical professional and then, receive written medical clearance of an AHCP.

For current and up-to-date information on concussions, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/concussioninyouthsports/> or <http://www.seeingstarsfoundation.org>

### Statement of Student Athlete Responsibility

Parents and students should be aware of preliminary evidence that suggests repeat concussions, and even hits that do not cause a symptomatic concussion, may lead to abnormal brain changes which can only be seen on autopsy (known as Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE)). There have been case reports suggesting the development of Parkinson's-like symptoms, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), severe traumatic brain injury, depression, and long term memory issues that may be related to concussion history. Further research on this topic is needed before any conclusions can be drawn.

**I acknowledge the annual requirement for my child/ward to view "Concussion in Sports" at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com). I accept responsibility for reporting all injuries and illnesses to my parents, team doctor, athletic trainer, or coaches associated with my sport including any signs and symptoms of CONCUSSION. I have read and understand the above information on concussion. I will inform the supervising coach, athletic trainer or team physician immediately if I experience any of these symptoms or witness a teammate with these symptoms. Furthermore, I have been advised of the dangers of participation for myself and that of my child/ward.**

Name of Student-Athlete (printed)	Signature of Student-Athlete	Date / /
Name of Parent/Guardian (printed)	Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date / /
Name of Parent/Guardian (printed)	Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date / /



# Consent and Release from Liability Certificate for

## Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Heat-Related Illness (Page 3 of 3)

This completed form must be kept on file by the school. This form is valid for 365 calendar days from the date of the most recent signature.

School: \_\_\_\_\_ School District (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

### Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is a leading cause of sports-related death. This policy provides procedures for educational requirements of all paid coaches and recommends added training. Sudden cardiac arrest is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating. If this happens, blood stops flowing to the brain and other vital organs. SCA can cause death if it's not treated within minutes.

**Symptoms of SCA include, but not limited to: sudden collapse, no pulse, no breathing.**

**Warning signs associated with SCA include: fainting during exercise or activity, shortness of breath, racing heart rate, dizziness, chest pains, extreme fatigue.**

It is strongly recommended that all coaches, whether paid or volunteer, be regularly trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). Training is encouraged through agencies that provide hands-on training and offer certificates that include an expiration date. Beginning June 1, 2021, a school employee or volunteer with current training in CPR and the use of an AED must be present at each athletic event during and outside of the school year, including practices, workouts and conditioning sessions.

The AED must be in a clearly marked and publicized location for each athletic contest, practice, workout or conditioning session, including those conducted outside of the school year.

**What to do if your student-athlete collapses:**

1. Call 911
2. Send for an AED
3. Begin compressions

### Heat-Related Illnesses Information

People suffer heat-related illness when their bodies cannot properly cool themselves by sweating. Sweating is the body's natural air conditioning, but when a person's body temperature rises rapidly, sweating just isn't enough. Heat-related illnesses can be serious and life threatening. Very high body temperatures may damage the brain or other vital organs, and can cause disability and even death. Heat-related illnesses and deaths are preventable.

**Heat Stroke** is the most serious heat-related illness. It happens when the body's temperature rises quickly and the body cannot cool down. Heat Stroke can cause permanent disability and death.

**Heat Exhaustion** is a milder type of heat-related illness. It usually develops after a number of days in high temperature weather and not drinking enough fluids.

**Heat Cramps** usually affect people who sweat a lot during demanding activity. Sweating reduces the body's salt and moisture and can cause painful cramps, usually in the abdomen, arms, or legs. Heat cramps may also be a symptom of heat exhaustion.

**Who's at Risk?**

Those at highest risk include the elderly, the very young, people with mental illness and people with chronic diseases. However, even young and healthy individuals can succumb to heat if they participate in demanding physical activities during hot weather. Other conditions that can increase your risk for heat-related illness include obesity, fever, dehydration, poor circulation, sunburn, and prescription drug or alcohol use.

**By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the annual requirement for my child/ward to view both the "Sudden Cardiac Arrest" and "Heat Illness Prevention" courses at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com). I acknowledge that the information on Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Heat-Related Illness have been read and understood. I have been advised of the dangers of participation for myself and that of my child/ward.**

Name of Student-Athlete (printed)	Signature of Student-Athlete	Date _____/_____/_____
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Name of Parent/Guardian (printed)	Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date _____/_____/_____
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Name of Parent/Guardian (printed)	Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date _____/_____/_____
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