

ALABAMA BABE RUTH

Parks & Recreation

Alabama

League Name _____

Regular Season ☐

Team Name _____

All – Stars ☐

Concussion Information Sheet

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** You can't see a concussion and most sports 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. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away.

Symptoms may include one or more of the following;	
• Headaches	• Amnesia
• “Pressure in head”	• “Don’t feel right”
• Nausea or vomiting	• Fatigue or low energy
• Neck pain	• Sadness
• Balance problems or dizziness	• Nervousness or anxiety
• Blurred, double, or fuzzy vision	• Irritability
• Sensitivity to light or noise	• More emotional
• Feeling sluggish or slowed down	• Confusion
• Drowsiness	• Change in sleep patterns
• Repeating the same question/comment	• Feeling foggy or groggy
• Concentration or memory problems (forgetting game plays)	

Signs observed by teammates, parents and coaches include:	
• Appears dazed	• Vacant facial expression
• Confused about assignment	• Forgets plays
• Is unsure of game, score, or opponent	• Answers questions slowly
• Moves clumsily or displays incoordination	• Slurred speech
• Shows behavior or personality changes	• Seizures or convulsions
• Can’t recall events prior to hit	• Can’t recall events after hit
• Any change in typical behavior or personality	• Loses consciousness

What can happen if my child keeps on playing with a concussion or returns too soon?

Athletes with the signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to greater injury. There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period of time after that concussion occurs, particularly if the athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recovery, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences. It is well known that adolescent or teenage athlete will often under report symptoms of injuries, and concussions are no different. As a result, education of administrators, coaches, parents and students is the key for student-athlete's safety.

Concussion Policy: Any health care professional or certified coach may identify concussive signs, symptoms or behaviors of an athlete during any type of athletic activity. Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be removed from the contest and shall not return to practice or play until a medical release has been issued by a medical doctor.

If you think your child has suffered a concussion

Any athlete even suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the game or practice 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 medical clearance. Close observation of the athlete should continue for several hours. You should also inform your child's coach if you think that your child may have a concussion. Remember its better to miss one game than miss the whole season. And when in doubt, the athlete sits out.

This form is required by Alabama Law established in June 2011. The form was revised in April 2012, coinciding with the current AHSAA Concussion Policy. This form was revised in January 2013 and adopted for use by the Alabama Babe Ruth League (ABRL).

For current and up-to-date information on concussions you can go to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ConcussionInYouthSports/>

Parent/Guardian Waiver

I certify that:

1. I have been provided with information on **concussions in youth sports** in compliance with HB 108
2. I understand that on a yearly basis, the **concussions in youth sports** information sheet shall be signed and returned to the local Parks and Rec by myself (or my parent or legal guardian if I am under the age of eighteen (18) years old) prior to my initiating practice or competition. If any player/participant is suspected of suffering a concussion or brain injury, the player will be removed from practice or competition and not returned to practice or competition until cleared in writing by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions (Medical Doctors, *Certified Athletic Trainers*, etc).

I have reviewed this information on concussions and am aware that a release by a medical doctor is required before a player may return to play under this policy.

Players Name	Date of Birth	Parent Signature

Athlete Name Printed

Athlete Signature

Date

Parent Name Printed

Parent Signature

Date

NOTE: This signed form, along with a medical release form signed by a medical doctor, must be submitted to ABRL (Eugene Reynolds) prior to the athlete returning to practice or games.