CONCUSSIONS:
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Don Muenz, OHSAA Director of Soccer Officiating Development
WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

CONTINUED PARTICIPATION RISKS:

- WORSENING SYMPTOMS
- INCREASED RISK OF FURTHER INJURY
- INCREASED RISK OF DEATH
WHY SO CAREFUL?

- SCHOOL-AGE BRAIN DOES NOT RECOVER QUICKLY ENOUGH
- NEED FOR MEDICAL EVALUATION
- NEED FOR RETURN TO PLAY PLAN
SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, BEHAVIORS

AS OBSERVED BY OTHERS:

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment
- Forgets instruction
- Is unsure of game, score or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness
- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Can’t recall events prior to hit
- Can’t recall events after hit/fall
Signs, Symptoms, Behaviors

Officials do not treat players

Officials do not diagnose

Officials recognize signs, symptoms, behaviors

Remove player from match

Prevent re-entry on same day
SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, BEHAVIORS

AS REPORTED BY ATHLETE:

• Headache or Pressure in Head
• Nausea or vomiting
• Balance problems or dizziness
• Double vision or fuzzy vision
• Sensitivity to light or noise
• Feeling sluggish or hazy
• Feeling foggy or groggy
• Concentration or memory problems
• Confusion
• Feels “down” or “not right”
SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, BEHAVIORS

IF ANY ARE PRESENT:

1. IMMEDIATE STOPPAGE & REMOVAL
2. NO RETURN TO PLAY ON SAME DAY. PERIOD.
3. FOLLOW RTP PROTOCOL FOR POSSIBLE RETURN ON A LATER DAY
4. FOLLOW OHIO LAW, NOT NFHS RULES
OHIO LAW GOVERNS

- R.C. 3313.539 OVERRIDES NFHS
- AM. SUB. H.B. 143 OF 129TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
- NO RETURN TO PLAY ON SAME DAY. PERIOD.
- RTP PROTOCOL FOR RETURN AFTER DAY OF REMOVAL
WHO ENFORCES?

ALL OF THE ADULTS:

- COACHES
- CONTEST OFFICIALS
- ADMINISTRATORS
- MEDICAL PERSONNEL
- STUDENTS & PARENTS
WHAT DO COACHES DO?

- REVIEW AND KNOW SIGNS, SYMPTOMS & BEHAVIORS OF CONCUSSION
- PROHIBIT PARTICIPATION ON SAME DAY IN MATCH OR PRACTICE BY ATHLETE WHO SHOWS SIGNS, SYMPTOMS OR BEHAVIORS
- COACH NOT A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL
- HAS NO AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE IF THERE HAS BEEN A CONCUSSION
- ENSURES PLAYER’S PARENTS ARE NOTIFIED & STUDENT IS REFERRED TO A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL
- PAP RENEWAL INCLUDES CONCUSSION CERT’N.
WHAT DO OFFICIALS DO?

- REVIEW & KNOW SIGNS, SYMPTOMS & BEHAVIORS OF CONCUSSION
- NOT EXPECTED TO BE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS
- NO AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE IF THERE HAS BEEN A CONCUSSION
- IMMEDIATE STOPPAGE & REMOVAL
- NO RETURN TO PLAY ON SAME DAY. PERIOD.
- FOLLOW OHIO LAW, NOT NFHS RULES
- NO RTP AFTER THE DAY, W/O WRITTEN PERMISSION
- CONCUSSION CERT’N. ON LICENSE RENEWAL
WHAT DO OFFICIALS DO?

- Direct immediate removal of any player who displays signs, symptoms, behaviors.
- Inform coach in presence of 2nd official.
- Do not permit return to play of on the same day.
- No RTP after the day w/o written permission.
- Head referee files concussion report with OHSAA within 48 hours.
- Carry proof of concussion course completion, your OHSAA license.
LET COACH/TRAINER KNOW

- Two officials always let coach & trainer know what they observed
- Give coach & trainer all of the information
- Remind coach of no return on same day
- Head referee sends concussion report form to OHSAA within 48 hours
PLAYER RETURNS SAME DAY

IN A GAME, IF AN OFFICIAL BECOMES AWARE THAT PLAYER HAS RETURNED ON SAME DAY:

- STOP PLAY IMMEDIATELY
- REMOVE PLAYER
- NOTE THIS ON OHSAAA CONCUSSION REPORT WITHIN 48 HOURS
OHSAA CONCUSSION REPORT

- FILE WITH OHSAA IF PLAYER IS REMOVED
- FILE WITHIN 48 HOURS OF END OF MATCH
- KEEP A COPY IN A SAFE PLACE
CONCUSSION REPORT

- Student’s Name
- Date
- School Name
- Sport
- Level of Contest (Circle One) 7th 8th 9th JV Varsity
- Official’s Name
- OHSAA Permit #
- Comments:__________________________________
- Please forward to Brandy Young at the OHSAA within 48 hours.