

# ARIZONA STATE LAW: CONCUSSIONS

## TITLE 15. EDUCATION CHAPTER 3. LOCAL GOVERNANCE OF SCHOOLS ARTICLE 3. POWERS AND DUTIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARDS

### A.R.S. § 15-341 (2011)

#### § 15-341. General powers and duties; immunity; delegation

A. The governing board shall:

24. Prescribe and enforce policies and procedures relating to the health and safety of all pupils participating in district sponsored practice sessions or games or other interscholastic athletic activities, including:

(b) Guidelines, information and forms, developed in consultation with a statewide private entity that supervises interscholastic activities, to inform and educate coaches, pupils and parents of the dangers of **concussions** and head injuries and the risks of continued participation in athletic activity after a **concussion**.

The policies and procedures shall require that, before a pupil participates in an athletic activity, the pupil and the pupil's parent must sign an information form at least once each school year that states that the parent is aware of the nature and risk of **concussion**.

The policies and procedures shall require that a pupil who is suspected of sustaining a **concussion** in a practice session, game or other interscholastic athletic activity be immediately removed from the athletic activity. A coach from the pupil's team or an official or a licensed health care provider may remove a pupil from play. A team parent may also remove his or her own child from play.

A pupil may return to play on the same day if a health care provider rules out a suspected **concussion** at the time the pupil is removed from play. On a subsequent day, the pupil may return to play if the pupil has been evaluated by and received written clearance to resume participation in athletic activity from a health care provider who has been trained in the evaluation and management of **concussions** and head injuries. A school district, school district employee, team coach, official, team volunteer or a parent or guardian of a team member is not subject to civil liability for any act, omission or policy undertaken in good faith to comply with the requirements of this subdivision or for a decision made or an action taken by a health care provider.

A group or organization that uses property or facilities owned or operated by a school district for athletic activities shall comply with the requirements of this subdivision. A school district and its employees and volunteers are not subject to civil liability for any other person or organization's failure or alleged failure to comply with the requirements of this subdivision. This subdivision does not apply to teams that are based in another state and that participate in an athletic activity in this state. For the purposes of this subdivision, athletic activity does not include dance, rhythmic gymnastics, competitions or exhibitions of academic skills or knowledge or other similar forms of physical noncontact activities, civic activities or academic activities, whether engaged in for the purposes of competition or recreation.

For the purposes of this subdivision, "a health care provider" means a physician who is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 13 or 17, an athletic trainer who is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 41, a nurse practitioner who is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 15, and a physician assistant who is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 25. A health care provider who is a volunteer and who provides clearance to participate in athletic activity on the day of the suspected injury or on a subsequent day is immune from civil liability with respect to all decisions made and actions taken that are based on good faith implementation of the requirements of this subdivision, except in cases of gross negligence or wanton or willful neglect.