



CONCUSSION TRAINING

POLICY NUMBER: 15- 19.10	EFFECTIVE DATE: 9/1/15
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CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: <i>[Signature]</i>	DATE: 9-1-15

Summary of the Law

Senate Bill 721 - Jenna's Law became effective on January 1, 2014. The law affects all sports league coaches (including managers), league governing bodies, non- school athletic teams (which are teams with persons under age 18, and not affiliated with a public school in Oregon), referee governing bodies, and referees that are affiliated with, or otherwise sponsored or organized by, a nonprofit corporation established by ORS Chapter 65.

Jenna's Law expands the provisions of a 2009 bill called "Max's Law" (ORS 336.485) that requires public school coaches and referees to protect student athletes from brain injury. This new law, SB 721, adds coaches and referees of club and recreational teams to those that must receive yearly training on concussions, must keep athletes with signs of concussion out of competition for a day, and must facilitate medical screening of that athlete.

A concussion is a brain injury. Concussions are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head. Concussions may range from mild to severe and may disrupt the way the brain normally works.

The Oregon law requires that athletes, and at least one parent or legal guardian, be provided with guidelines and materials to inform and educate them about the symptoms and warning signs of a concussion.

In the event of a concussion, or suspected concussion, the law imposes three requirements:

1. **Educate Coaches, Parents, and Athletes:** Inform and educate coaches, athletes, and their parents and guardians about concussion through training and a concussion information sheet.
2. **Remove Athlete from Play:** An athlete who is believed to have a concussion must be immediately removed from play.
3. **Obtain Permission to Return to Play:** An athlete can return to play or practice **only** after at least 24 hours from the time of the suspected concussion, **and** with a written release from a health care professional.

Policy

It is the policy of the City of Newport to comply with requirements of the Senate Bill 721.

This policy applies to **ALL** city employees, coaches, volunteers, independent contractors, managers and referees involved with non-school athletic teams, regardless of their age and/or status. These individuals are required to complete the annual concussion training. The trainings are designed to comply with current legislation concerning concussions in players under the age of 18 participating in non-school sports activities.

Concussion guidelines and materials must be provided each year of participation. At least one parent or legal guardian of all persons under 18 years of age participating in any of the city's sports program must acknowledge the receipt of such concussion guidelines and materials, and confirm their review of those guidelines and materials. If the person participating in any of the city's sports program is 12 years of age or older, the participating athlete themselves must acknowledge the receipt of the guidelines and materials.

All employees with jobs that require them to be involved with non-school athletic teams will receive concussion training via the SafePersonnel Training System. The training will be required to be completed on the first day of employment during New Employee Orientation (NEO). All training will be tracked via the SafePersonnel system.

Non-employees, such as coaches, volunteers, and independent contractors that are involved with non-school athletic teams may receive concussion training via classroom setting.

Requirements

The city shall hold an informational meeting prior to the beginning of any sport season for each non-school athletic team regarding the symptoms and warning signs of a concussion.

A coach must not allow a member of a non-school athletic team to participate in any athletic event or training **on the same day** that the member:

- Exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion, following an observed or suspected blow to the head or body; or
- Has been diagnosed by a health care professional with a concussion.

A coach may not allow a member of a non-school athletic team who is prohibited from participating in an athletic event or training due to signs, symptoms, or behavior, or a diagnosis of a concussion, to participate in an athletic event or training **no sooner than the day after** the member experienced a blow to the head or body, **and only after the member:**

- No longer exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion; **and**
- Receives a written medical release from a health care professional.

The city has developed guidelines and other relevant materials, and shall make available those guidelines and materials to:

- Inform and educate persons under 18 years of age desiring to be a member on a non-school athletic team, and;
- The parents and/or legal guardians of the persons, and the coaches, about the symptoms and warning signs of a concussion.

Prior to a person, less than 18 years of age, participating as a member on a non-school athletic team, and annually thereafter, at least one parent or legal guardian of the person must acknowledge in writing the receipt of the guidelines and materials, and review those guidelines and materials. If the person is 12 years of age or older, the person themselves must acknowledge in writing receipt of the guidelines and materials.

Department Heads and supervisors in the Parks and Recreation Department are responsible for the following:

- Ensure the timely training of employees, volunteers, coaches, referees, and Independent Contractors.
- Ensure that the appropriate informational materials are being reviewed by parents, athletics, and coaches.
- Ensure that staff understands the Concussion Protocol steps outlined in the flowchart.
- Follow-up on any non-compliance issues.

Definitions

“Coach” means a person who volunteers, or is paid to instruct or train members of a non-school athletic team.

“League governing body” means a governing body that:

- Oversees an association of non-school athletic teams that provide instruction or training to team members that may compete with each other; and
- Is affiliated with, or otherwise sponsored or organized by, a nonprofit corporation as provided by ORS Chapter 65.

“Non-school athletic team” means an athletic team that includes members that are under 18 years of age, and that is not affiliated with a public school in Oregon.

“Referee” means a person that volunteers, or is paid to act as a referee, as an umpire, or in a similar supervisory position, for events involving non-school athletic teams.

“Referee governing body” means a governing body that:

- Trains and certifies individuals to serve as referees for non-school athletic team events; and
- Is affiliated with, or otherwise sponsored or organized by, a nonprofit corporation established as provided by ORS chapter 65.

“Health Care Professional” means a physician (MD), physician's assistant (PA), Doctor of Osteopathic (DO) licensed by the Oregon State Board of Medicine, nurse practitioner (NP)

licensed by the Oregon State Board of Nursing, or Psychologist licensed by the Oregon State Board of Psychologist Examiners.