

Secondary School Student Athletes’ Bill of Rights

Protecting America’s Student Athletes

1. Student Athletes have the right to be coached by individuals who are well trained in sport-specific safety and to be monitored by athletic health care team members.
2. Student Athletes have the right to quality, regular pre-participation examinations and each athlete has the right to participate under a comprehensive concussion management plan.
3. Student Athletes have the right to participate in sporting activities on safe, clean playing surfaces, in both indoor and outdoor facilities.
4. Student Athletes have the right to utilize equipment and uniforms that are safe, fitted appropriately and routinely maintained, and to appropriate personnel trained in proper removal of equipment in case of injury.
5. Student Athletes have the right to participate safely in all environmental conditions where play follows approved guidelines and medical policies and procedures, with a hydration plan in place.
6. Student Athletes have the right to a safe playing environment with venue- specific emergency action plans that are coordinated by the athletic health care team and regularly rehearsed with local emergency personnel.
7. Student Athletes have the right to privacy of health information and proper referral for medical, psychosocial and nutritional counseling.
8. Student Athletes have the right to participate in a culture that finds “playing through pain” unacceptable unless there has been a medical assessment.
9. Student Athletes have the right to immediate, on-site injury assessments with decisions made by qualified sports medicine professionals.
10. Student Athletes have the right, along with their parents, to the latest information about the benefits and potential risks of participation in competitive sports, including access to statistics on fatalities and catastrophic injuries to youth athletes.