



Policy Name: Concussion Player Return to Play Policy		Date of Approval: Feb 11, 2023	Effective Date: Feb 11, 2023
Approved by: Board of Directors	Prepared by: Risk & Safety Committee	Replaces Previous Versions: Oct 13, 2017	
Review Cycle: Annually			
Responsible: Board of Directors- Risk & Safety	Accountable: Board of Directors	Consulted: Board of Directors	Informed: HNO Members

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify who is responsible to maintain the documentation of a return to play form as per the requirements of Hockey Canada's Concussion Policy.

Adherence

When a player is suspected or deemed to have suffered a concussion, they are not permitted to play, practice or train until the player has completed the six-step return to play strategy and is medically cleared by physician.

Written clearance from a physician is required and must be provided to team coaches/safety person or association official.

Team officials and parent/guardians are not to pressure the player to return to play until the player has completed the six-step return to play strategy and is medically cleared by physician.

As per Rule 2.2m, Team officials are not permitted to allow an injured player to be on the players' bench during a game or practice without Hockey Canada / HNO Hockey required protective equipment.

Discipline

Any team, association or individual who knowingly disregards their responsibility of requiring a physician's written permission permitting a player to return to play following a concussion will be subject to suspension