

1 **Charlo School District**

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3 **STUDENTS**

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5 Management of Sports Related Concussions

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7 The Charlo School District recognizes that concussions and head injuries are commonly reported injuries
8 in children and adolescents who participate in sports and other recreational activities. The Board
9 acknowledges the risk of catastrophic injuries or death is significant when a concussion or head injury is
10 not properly evaluated and managed. Therefore, all K-12 competitive youth athletic activities in the
11 District will be identified by the administration.

12 Consistent with guidelines provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for
13 Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of High School (NFHS) and the Montana High
14 School Association (MHSA), the District will utilize procedures developed by the MHSA and other
15 pertinent information to inform and educate coaches, athletic trainers, officials, youth athletes, and their
16 parents and/or guardians of the nature and risk of concussions or head injuries, including the dangers
17 associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury. Resources are available on the
18 Montana High School Association Sports Medicine page at www.mhsa.org; U.S. Department of Health
19 and Human Services page at: www.hhs.gov; and; the Centers for Disease and Prevention page at
20 www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports.index.html.

21
22 Annually, the district will distribute a head injury and concussion information and sign-off sheet to all
23 parents and guardians of student-athletes in competitive sport activities prior to the student-athlete's initial
24 practice or competition.

25 All coaches, athletic trainers, officials, including volunteers participating in organized youth athletic
26 activities, shall complete the training program at least once each school year as required in the District
27 procedure. Additionally, all coaches, athletic trainers, officials, including volunteers participating in
28 organized youth athletic activities will comply with all procedures for the management of head injuries
29 and concussions.

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31 Reference: Montana High School Association, Rules and Regulations
32 Section 4, Return to Play

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34 Legal Reference: Dylan Steigers Act

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36 Cross Reference: 3415F Student-Athlete & Parent/Legal Custodian Concussion Statement
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39 Policy History:

40 Adopted on: 1/18/11

41 Reviewed on:

42 Revised on:

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7 A. Athletic Director or Administrator in Charge of Athletic Duties:

- 8 1. *Updating:* Each spring, the athletic director, or the administrator in charge of athletics if there is
9 no athletic director, shall review any changes that have been made in procedures required for
10 concussion and head injury management or other serious injury by consulting with the MHSA or
11 the MHSA Web site, U.S. DPHHS, and CDCP web site. If there are any updated procedures, they
12 will be adopted and used for the upcoming school year.
- 13 2. *Identified Sports:* Identified sports include all organized youth athletic activity sponsored by the
14 school or school district.

15 B. *Training:* All coaches, athletic trainers, and officials, including volunteers shall undergo training in
16 head injury and concussion management at least once each school years by one of the following
17 means: (1) through viewing the MHSA sport-specific rules clinic; (2) through viewing the MHSA
18 concussion clinic found on the MHSA Sports Medicine page at www.mhsa.org; or by the district
19 inviting the participation of appropriate advocacy groups and appropriate sports governing bodies to
20 facilitate the training requirements.

21 C. *Parent Information Sheet:* On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet shall be
22 distributed to the youth-athlete and the athlete's parent and/or guardian prior to the youth-athlete's
23 initial practice or competition. This information sheet may be incorporated into the parent permission
24 sheet which allows students to participate in extracurricular athletics and should include resources
25 found on the MHSA Sports Medicine page at www.mhsa.org, U.S. DPHHS, and CDCP websites.

26 D. *Responsibility:* An athletic trainer, coach, or official shall immediately remove from play, practice,
27 tryouts, training exercises, preparation for an athletic game, or sport camp a youth-athlete who is
28 suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury or other serious injury.

29 E. *Return to Play After Concussion or Head Injury:* In accordance with MHSA Return to Play Rules and
30 Regulations and the Dylan Steigers Act, a youth-athlete who has been removed from play, practice,
31 tryouts, taining exercises, preparation for an athletic game, or sport camp may not return until the
32 athlete is cleared by a licensed health care professional (registered, licensed, certified, or otherwise
33 statutorily recorgnized health care professional). The health care provider may be a volunteer.

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35 Policy History:

36 Adopted on: 01/18/11

37 Reviewed on:

38 Revised on: 07/16/13