

#WeAreOne



Barrie Soccer Club Concussion Policy, Protocol & Resources

Concussion Policy

The Barrie Soccer Club (BSC) is committed to providing a safe environment for all players and is therefore instituting the following Concussion Policy:

- It is mandatory that all players under 26 years of age, parents/guardians of players under 18, technical leads, coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, and officials confirm every year that they have reviewed Ontario's Concussion Awareness Resources. The Concussion Awareness Resources can be accessed at the following link <https://www.ontario.ca/page/rowans-law-concussion-awareness-resources>.
- Each year, players, parents/guardians, coaches and team managers must review and sign off on their applicable Code of Conduct that sets out rules of behaviour to support concussion prevention as well as confirm that the Concussion Awareness Resources have been reviewed. The Code of Conduct must be submitted to either your team manager or the Club office at info@barriesoccer.com.
- The BSC will establish a Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport protocol to mirror that of the Ontario government's recommended protocol once made available to the public. For the time being, the BSC is following the Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport protocols developed by Canada Soccer. It is summarized below in the section titled Concussion Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport Protocol.
- It is mandatory that all parents/guardians/players indicate as part of the registration process if they agree with the following statement: "If my child is diagnosed with a concussion during a Barrie Soccer Club activity or during ANY OTHER ACTIVITY including those outside Barrie Soccer, or if my player has a prior head injury, I will inform my child's Coach of such diagnosis prior to the start of the season or before my child returns to play."
- It is mandatory that all players, parents/guardians, technical leads, coaches, assistant coaches, team managers and other volunteers read Canada Soccer's *Concussion Policy* that can be found at the following link: https://canadasoccer.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2018_Concussion_Policy_Digital_EN.pdf
- It is mandatory that all players, parents/guardians, technical leads, coaches, assistant coaches, team managers and other volunteers read and familiarize themselves with the BSC's Concussion Protocol outlined below.



Concussion Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport Protocol

All technical leads/coaches/assistant coaches are to follow the following Removal-from-Sport and Return-to-Sport protocol without exception:

- Sit a player out for the remainder of a practice or game if the player sustains a blow to the head or a jarring collision that causes the coaching team to suspect a concussion.
 - In situations where the player might have experienced an impact to the head but the player shows no signs or symptoms of a concussion, the coaching team/team manager will notify the parents/guardians and preferably also send an email notifying parents/guardians to monitor the player for 24-48 hours as a precaution. As the symptoms of a concussion are not always present initially, coaches and managers are encouraged to always maintain open dialogue with parents whenever there is any concern of possible head injury.
- In the event of a loss of consciousness call 911 for assistance immediately. Do not move the player unless absolutely necessary for safety reasons.
- Notify the player's parents/guardians of the incident immediately.
- Ensure that a member of the coaching/management team stay with the player at all times.
- Notify parents/guardians immediately. If they are not present, call them immediately and ask them to come to the practice or game location.
- Complete the required Accident Report Form at the location of the incident and submit it to the Club office at info@barriesoccer.com within 24 hours of the incident.
- The player must be evaluated by a licensed healthcare professional prior to returning to play. The Concussion Assessment Medical Report, found on the BSC website, must be completed by a licensed healthcare professional. Once completed, the report must be submitted to a team official and the Club at info@barriesoccer.com.
- If a player is not diagnosed with a concussion by their licensed healthcare professional, they may return to play. A licensed healthcare professional's letter must be received by a team official and the Club at info@barriesoccer.com prior to returning to play. Without a letter, the player will not be allowed to return to play.
- If a player is diagnosed with a concussion, coaches will follow all recommendations made by the player's licensed healthcare professional on their gradual return to play. It is strongly recommended that the licensed healthcare professional have access to the Return to Soccer Strategy outlined by Canada Soccer when assessing the player's return to play process as well as the Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport provided by Parachute.

As per Canada Soccer's Concussion Policy, a second Concussion Assessment Medical Report and Medical Clearance Letter must be filled out by the player's licensed healthcare professional in order to return to play after a concussion diagnosis. The template for this letter can be found on the BSC website. The Medical Clearance Letter from the player's licensed healthcare professional must be received by a team official, and the Club at info@barriesoccer.com in order for the player to return to play.

Barrie Soccer Club

7 Currie Drive, Midhurst ON, L9X 0N3 Tel: 705-739-7844 Fax: 705-739-3534

Email: info@barriesoccer.com \ BSCOffice@barriesoccer.com

www.barriesoccer.com