

OLDHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION –9060.02-F

CONSENT OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN FOR ImPACT™ TESTING
Of HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ATHLETES

Relates to: OCBE Administrative Regulation 9060-AR, OCBE Form 9060.01-F
Page 1 of 3

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student-athletes, the school district has partnered with Baptist Hospital Northeast, the provider of our athletic training services, to acquire a software tool called ImPACT™ (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). ImPACT™ is a leader in computerized neurocognitive assessment tools and services, which are becoming more prevalent in recognizing and managing head injuries. (Additional information about ImPACT™ can be found at www.impacttest.com.)

All high school athletes must complete the ImPACT exam prior to athletic participation. This test is set up in a “video-game” style format and takes 30-35 minutes to complete. The ImPACT™ test is a pre-season physical of the brain that tracks information such as memory, reaction time, speed, and concentration, but it is not an IQ test. The ImPACT™ test is non-invasive and poses no risks to your child.

We will be testing all in-coming freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors, as well as middle school students who are participating at the high school level. Each student athlete will be tested once prior to beginning sports practice or competition and will be tested again if they sustain a head injury. Student athletes sustaining a concussion will continue to be tested using the ImPACT™ test until their post-concussion results are within the normal ranges of their baseline test. There is no charge for this testing.

The protocol for managing these injuries and returning athletes to play is briefly outlined below.

1. **All athletes who sustain head injuries are required to be evaluated and cleared by their primary care physician (PCP),** prior to being permitted to progress to activity. This includes athletes who were initially referred to the emergency department.
2. **In addition to the physician exam, 2 other criteria must be met prior to clearance for return to play:**
(a) the student athlete must be asymptomatic, at rest and with exertion, and (b) the athlete’s post-injury neurocognitive testing data must be within normal range of the athlete’s baseline ImPACT™ scores.
3. Athletes who have been cleared to return to activity follow a graduated procedure, as recommended by “The Summary and Agreement Statement of the 2nd International Conference on Concussion in Sport, Prague 2004” and the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Position Statement on Management of Sport-Related Concussion (2004).

By signing the Parent Consent Form you authorize the Oldham County school district to release medical information and ImPACT™ results to your child’s Primary Care Physician. Your child’s health and safety are an important part of the student athletic experience and we are pleased to implement this program. If you have any further questions regarding this program please feel free to contact your school Athletic Director or Athletic Trainer.

Sincerely,

Oldham County Schools Athletic Trainers

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Page 2 of 3

STUDENT NAME: _____

STUDENT ADDRESS: _____

STUDENT DATE OF BIRTH: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: North Oldham Oldham County South Oldham

GRADE: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
 8th grade 7th grade 6th grade

I hereby give permission for my child to complete an ImPACT™ baseline test and post-concussion ImPACT™ tests administered at the high school for which my student is competing as needed. I understand that my child may need to complete the test more than once, depending on the results of the test. I understand there is no charge for the testing.

I further agree that the high school may release the ImPACT™ results and any other information related to his or her head injury to my child's primary care physician, neurologist, or other physician involved with my child's care.

Name of parent or guardian

Date

Signature of parent or guardian

Parent or guardian phone numbers (*please indicate preferred contact number & time if necessary*):

HOME: _____ preferred

WORK: _____ preferred

CELL: _____ preferred

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Name of Physician: _____

Practice or Group Name: _____

Telephone number: _____

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Page 3 of 3

What You Need to Know About Concussion

Concussion is the most common form of head injury for athletes and is associated with any number of symptoms, such as disorientation, confusion, amnesia, visual disturbances, headache, dizziness, and sometimes loss of consciousness (LOC), as well as other symptoms. It is not necessary to lose consciousness to sustain a concussion, nor to actually hit one's head. A very mild concussion can last less than 15 minutes. It is important for athletes to report concussions because cumulative effects of repeated concussion can result in permanent intellectual and cognitive changes. We also know that youth appear to be more vulnerable to the effects of concussion.

It is now known that REST is the best treatment after a concussion and helps the brain heal faster. If the athlete is still symptomatic, forcing him or her to exert either physically or mentally will likely lengthen the recovery period. And no athlete should return to play if concussion symptoms re-surface with exertion.

Management of concussion in youth is very important to prevent a rare but often fatal brain injury called Second Impact Syndrome. This Syndrome may occur when an athlete suffers a mild concussion and then within a short period of time (usually within one week) receives a second blow to the head. Rapid brain swelling can occur as the brain has not yet healed from the first hit. Increased intracranial pressure, if uncontrolled, can lead to death or severe neurological damage.

When concussion symptoms persist, especially after repeated or successive concussions, a condition called Post Concussion Syndrome (PCS) is identified. PCS occurs when any of a variety of symptoms, such as headache, attention/concentration difficulties, problems with memory, slow mental processing, fatigue, and emotionality or irritability is experienced for weeks or months after recovery would have been expected. In such cases additional medical, neurological, or psychiatric consultations may be recommended.

We know that neurocognitive/neuropsychological testing is more sensitive in identifying concussion than neurological, radiological, or medical examination. ImPACT™, a premier, user-friendly computer based tool was designed to assist in the proper evaluation and treatment of concussion. The ImPACT™ program evaluates and documents multiple aspects of neurocognitive functioning including memory, brain processing speed, reaction time, and post-concussive symptoms. This program can be used to manage concussions through pre-season baseline (pre-injury) and post-injury testing to monitor recovery and serve as a tool in making data driven return to play decisions.

Adopted: June 1, 2010