

Traumatic Head Injury Policy

Purpose:

AAI seeks to establish a framework prioritizing the safety and well-being of any student participating in sporting events and physical education classes. This policy is designed to address and regulate the various aspects of traumatic head injuries, including concussions, by providing clear guidelines, procedures, and training for AAI staff. Thus, AAI strives to minimize the risks associated with head injuries, ensure appropriate responses when such injuries occur, and create a culture of safety and awareness within our school community.

Policy:

The American Academy of Innovation adopts the following procedures to detect, respond to, and manage traumatic head injuries:

- **Detection of Head Injuries:** All staff members involved in supervising students during sporting events, including coaches, referees, and physical education instructors, shall be trained to recognize signs and symptoms of head injuries, including loss of consciousness, disorientation, confusion, dizziness, severe headache, nausea, or altered behavior.
- **Removal of Students from Sporting Events:** If a student is *suspected* of sustaining a head injury, staff member shall take prompt action to remove the student from participation. The student's safety is paramount, and they shall not be allowed to return to play until evaluated by a qualified health care professional.
- **Continued Participation:** A student removed due to head injury concerns may not participate in any further sporting event until cleared by a trained qualified health care professional. This prohibition is essential to prevent potential worsening of the injury.
- **Clearance by a Qualified Health Care Provider:** A student may only resume participation in sporting events after receiving written clearance from a qualified health care provider. The health care provider's evaluation will determine when it is safe for the student to return to sports activities.
- **Training for Staff:** All staff members involved in supervising students in sporting events and physical education classes will receive training on detecting signs of head injuries, removing participants from play, and the appropriate clearance procedures. Training shall include:
 - Prevalence and significance of head injuries
 - Importance of early detection

- Common signs, symptoms, and observational cues
 - Loss of consciousness
 - Headache
 - Dizziness
 - Confusion
 - Slurred Speech
 - Nausea
 - Fatigue
 - Light and noise sensitivity
 - Memory problems
 - Personality or mood changes
 - Visual disturbances
 - Emotional disturbances
 - Loss of coordination
 - Pupillary changes
 - Fluid leakage
- AAI response protocol
- Safety Measures
- Prohibition of participation
- Documentation
- Medical evaluation requirements
- Clearance process
- **Annual Notice to Parents:** Parents of participating students shall receive written notice of AAI's traumatic head injury policy annually.

By implementing these procedures, AAI hopes to prioritize the safety and well-being of our students and athletes, foster a culture of healthy competition, and provide a safe environment for their active and enjoyable participation in sports activities.