

## **CONCUSSION LEGISLATION**

To protect youth athletes, the State of Ohio has passed a concussion law, known as the “Return to Play” law. This law, similar to laws enacted in other states, enforces training, safety and awareness requirements related to head injuries on youth sports organizations.

### **REQUIREMENTS OF THE “RETURN TO PLAY” LAW**

Ohio Revised Code Section 3707.511 requires that each youth sport organization provide the concussion and head information sheet, as stated in Ohio Revised Code Section 3707.52, to each parent, guardian or other person having care or charge of an individual participating in the athletic activity. The required information sheet is attached to this document.

Ohio Revised Code Section 3707.511 also requires that all youth sport organizations inform all coaches and potential coaches of the following information:

No individual shall act as a coach or referee for a youth sports organization unless the individual holds a pupil-activity program permit issued under Ohio Revised Code Section 3319.303 for coaching interscholastic athletics or presents evidence that the individual has successfully completed, within the previous three years, a training program in recognizing the symptoms of concussions and head injuries to which the department of health has provided a link on its internet web site under Ohio Revised Code Section 3707.52.

### **FREE ONLINE COURSES**

In an effort to assist in complying with the Return to Play law, the Ohio Travel Soccer League recommends that all members of the league encourage their coaches to use the National Federation of State High School Associations’ (NFHS) free online training course. The website allows members to track their coaches’ progress and allows coaches to log in and print their certification.

To participate in this free online course please visit the following website:

<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/61064/concussion-in-sports>

### **OHIO TRAVEL SOCCER LEAGUE REQUIREMENTS**

The Ohio Travel Soccer League requires compliance with the Return to Play law. To monitor compliance, we require that each member with teams participating in the Ohio Travel Soccer League provide the following prior to the beginning of each season:

1. Copies of valid concussion certifications for **all** coaches who will be on the sidelines for Ohio Travel Soccer League games; or in the alternative, a signed copy of the attached form 1, executed by a member representative, attesting that they possess an up to date

copy of a valid concussion certificate for each coach that will be on the sidelines at any Ohio Travel Soccer League game.

2. A signed copy of the attached form 2, executed by the member representative, stating that each parent, guardian or other person having care or charge of an individual participating in the Ohio Travel Soccer League has received a copy of the concussion and head information sheet attached to this document.

**CONCUSSION CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FORM 1**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (member representative) attest to the fact that **any and all** coaches who will be on the sidelines for Ohio Travel Soccer League games have completed the necessary online course requirements and testing. I possess a copy of each coach's valid concussion certificate.

**Community Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
DATE SIGNED

**CONCUSSION CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FORM 2**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (member representative) have verified that each parent, guardian or other person having care or charge of an individual participating in the Ohio Travel Soccer League has received a copy of the concussion and head information sheet provided by the Ohio Travel Soccer League.

**Community Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
DATE SIGNED