

SECTION 4: UNDERSTANDING OF SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST & COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND WARNING SIGNS

What is sudden cardiac arrest?

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is when the heart stops beating, suddenly and unexpectedly. When this happens blood stops flowing to the brain and other vital organs. SCA is NOT a heart attack. A heart attack may cause SCA, but they are not the same. A heart attack is caused by a blockage that stops the flow of blood to the heart. SCA is a malfunction in the heart's electrical system, causing the heart to suddenly stop beating.

How common is sudden cardiac arrest in the United States?

There are about 350,000 cardiac arrests that occur outside of hospitals each year. More than 10,000 individuals under the age of 25 die of SCA each year. SCA is the number one killer of student athlete and the leading cause of death on school campuses.

Are there warning signs?

Although SCA happens unexpectedly, some people may have signs or symptoms, such as

- Dizziness or lightheadedness when exercising;
- Fainting or passing out during or after exercising;
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing with exercise, not asthma related;
- Racing, skipped beats or fluttering heartbeat (palpitations)
- Fatigue (extreme or recent onset of tiredness)
- Weakness; and/or
- Chest pains/pressure or tightness during or after exercise.

These symptoms can be unclear and confusing in athletes. Some may ignore the signs or think they are normal from physical exhaustion. If the conditions that cause SCA are diagnosed and treated before a life-threatening event, sudden cardiac death can be prevented in many young athletes.

What are the risks of practicing or playing after experiencing these symptoms?

There are risks associated with continuing to practice or play after experiencing these symptoms. The symptoms might mean something is wrong with the athlete and they should be checked before returning to play. When the heart stops due to cardiac arrest, so does the blood that flows to the brain and other vital organs. Death or permanent brain damage can occur in just a few minutes. Most people who experience a SCA die from it; survival rates are below 10%.

Act 73 – Peyton’s Law - Electrocardiogram Testing for Student Athletes

The Act is intended to keep student-athletes safe while practicing or playing. Please review the warning signs/symptoms and know that you can request, at your expense, an electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) to help uncover hidden heart issues that can lead to SCA.

Why Do Heart Conditions That Put Youth at Risk Go Undetected?

- Up to 90 percent of underlying heart issues are missed when using only the history and physical exam;
- Most heart conditions that can lead to SCA are not detectable by listening to the heart with a stethoscope during a routine physical; and
- Often, youth don't report or recognize symptoms of a potential heart condition.

What is an Electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG)?

An ECG/EKG is a quick, painless and noninvasive test that measures and records a moment in time of the heart's electrical activity. Small electrode patches are attached to the skin of your chest, arms and legs by a technician. An ECG/EKG provides information about the structure, function, rate and rhythm of the heart.

Why Add an ECG/EKG to the Physical Examination?

Adding an ECG/EKG to the history and physical exam can suggest further testing or help identify up to two-thirds of heart conditions that can lead to SCA. An ECG/EKG can be ordered by your physician for screening for cardiovascular disease (**ICD 10 code: Z13.6**) or for a variety of symptoms such as chest pain, palpitations, dizziness, fainting, or family history of heart disease and will generally be paid for by insurance.

- ECG/EKG screenings should be considered every 1-2 years because young hearts grow and change.
- ECG/EKG screenings may increase sensitivity for detection of undiagnosed cardiac disease but may not prevent SCA.
- ECG/EKG screenings with abnormal findings will need to be evaluated by trained physicians.
- If the ECG/EKG screening has abnormal findings, additional testing may need to be done (with associated cost and risk) before a diagnosis can be made, and may prevent the student from participating in sports for a short period of time until the testing is completed and more specific recommendations can be made.
- The ECG/EKG can have false positive findings, suggesting an abnormality that does not really exist after more testing (false positive findings occur less than 3% of the time when ECG/EKGs are read by a medical practitioner proficient in ECG/EKG interpretation of children, adolescents and young athletes.).
- ECGs/EKGs result in fewer false positives than the current history and physical exam (10%).

The American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association guidelines do not recommend an ECG or EKG in **asymptomatic** patients but do support local programs in which ECG or EKG can be applied with high-quality resources.

Removal from play/return to play

Any student-athlete who has signs or symptoms of SCA must be removed from play. The symptoms can happen before, during, or after activity. Play includes all athletic activity.

Before returning to play, the athlete must be evaluated. Clearance to return to play must be in writing. The evaluation must be performed by a licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or cardiologist (heart doctor). The licensed physician or certified registered nurse practitioner may consult any other licensed or certified medical professionals.

I have reviewed this form and understand the symptoms and warning signs of SCA. I have also read the information about the electrocardiogram testing and how it may help to detect hidden heart issues.

_____	_____	Date ___/___/___
Signature of Student-Athlete	Print Student-Athlete's Name	
_____	_____	Date ___/___/___
Signature of Parent/Guardian	Print Parent/Guardian's Name	

SECTION 7: RE-CERTIFICATION BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

This form must be completed not earlier than six weeks prior to the first Practice day of the sport(s) in the sports season(s) identified herein by the parent/guardian of any student who is seeking to participate in Practices, Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests in all subsequent sport seasons in the same school year. The Principal, or the Principal's designee, of the herein named student's school must review the SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH HISTORY.

If any SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH HISTORY questions are either checked yes or circled, the herein named student shall submit a completed Section 8, Re-Certification by Licensed Physician of Medicine or Osteopathic Medicine, to the Principal, or Principal's designee, of the student's school.

SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH HISTORY

Student's Name _____ Male/Female (circle one)

Date of Student's Birth: ____/____/____ Age of Student on Last Birthday: ____ Grade for Current School Year: ____

Winter Sport(s): _____ Spring Sport(s): _____

CHANGES TO PERSONAL INFORMATION (In the spaces below, identify any changes to the Personal Information set forth in the original Section 1: PERSONAL AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION):

Current Home Address _____

Current Home Telephone # () _____ Parent/Guardian Current Cellular Phone # () _____

CHANGES TO EMERGENCY INFORMATION (In the spaces below, identify any changes to the Emergency Information set forth in the original Section 1: PERSONAL AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION):

Parent's/Guardian's Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ Emergency Contact Telephone # () _____

Secondary Emergency Contact Person's Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ Emergency Contact Telephone # () _____

Medical Insurance Carrier _____ Policy Number _____

Address _____ Telephone # () _____

Family Physician's Name _____, MD or DO (circle one)

Address _____ Telephone # () _____

SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH HISTORY:

Explain "Yes" answers at the bottom of this form. Circle questions you don't know the answers to.

- | | Yes | No | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Since completion of the CIPPE, have you sustained an illness and/or injury that required medical treatment from a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Since completion of the CIPPE, have you experienced any episodes of unexplained shortness of breath, wheezing, and/or chest pain? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Since completion of the CIPPE, have you had a concussion (i.e. bell rung, ding, head rush) or traumatic brain injury? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Since completion of the CIPPE, are you taking any NEW prescription medicines or pills? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Since completion of the CIPPE, have you experienced dizzy spells, blackouts, and/or unconsciousness? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Do you have any concerns that you would like to discuss with a physician? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

#s	Explain "Yes" answers here:

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge all of the information herein is true and complete.

Student's Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge all of the information herein is true and complete.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Section 8: Re-CERTIFICATION BY LICENSED PHYSICIAN OF MEDICINE OR OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

This Form must be completed for any student who, subsequent to completion of Sections 1 through 6 of this CIPPE Form, required medical treatment from a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine. This Section 8 may be completed at any time following completion of such medical treatment. Upon completion, the Form must be turned in to the Principal, or the Principal's designee, of the student's school, who, pursuant to ARTICLE X, LOCAL MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL, Section 2, Powers and Duties of Principal, subsection C, of the PIAA Constitution, shall "exclude any contestant who has suffered serious illness or injury until that contestant is pronounced physically fit by the school's licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or if none is employed, by another licensed physician of medicine or osteopathic medicine."

NOTE: The physician completing this Form must first review Sections 5 and 6 of the herein named student's previously completed CIPPE Form. Section 7 must also be reviewed if both (1) this Form is being used by the herein named student to participate in Practices, Inter-School Practices, Scrimmages, and/or Contests in a subsequent sport season in the same school year AND (2) the herein named student either checked yes or circled any Supplemental Health History questions in Section 7.

If the physician completing this Form is clearing the herein named student subsequent to that student sustaining a concussion or traumatic brain injury, that physician must be sufficiently familiar with current concussion management such that the physician can certify that all aspects of evaluation, treatment, and risk of that injury have been thoroughly covered by that physician.

Student's Name: _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Enrolled in _____ School _____

Condition(s) Treated Since Completion of the Herein Named Student's CIPPE Form: _____

A. GENERAL CLEARANCE: Absent any illness and/or injury, which requires medical treatment, subsequent to the date set forth below, I hereby authorize the above-identified student to participate for the remainder of the current school year in additional interscholastic athletics with no restrictions, except those, if any, set forth in Section 6 of that student's CIPPE Form.

Physician's Name (print/type) _____ License # _____

Address _____ Phone () _____

Physician's Signature _____ MD or DO (circle one) Date _____

B. LIMITED CLEARANCE: Absent any illness and/or injury, which requires medical treatment, subsequent to the date set forth below, I hereby authorize the above-identified student to participate for the remainder of the current school year in additional interscholastic athletics with, in addition to the restrictions, if any, set forth in Section 6 of that student's CIPPE Form, the following limitations/restrictions:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Physician's Name (print/type) _____ License # _____

Address _____ Phone () _____

Physician's Signature _____ MD or DO (circle one) Date _____

Section 10: 2020-2021 SUPPLEMENTAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, WAIVER AND RELEASE: COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic presents athletes with a myriad of challenges concerning this highly contagious illness. Some severe outcomes have been reported in children, and even a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others who may be far more vulnerable.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of being infected with or furthering the spread of COVID-19, PIAA has urged all member schools to take necessary precautions and comply with guidelines from the federal, state, and local governments, the CDC and the PA Departments of Health and Education to reduce the risks to athletes, coaches, and their families. As knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing, PIAA reserves the right to adjust and implement precautionary methods as necessary to decrease the risk of exposure to athletes, coaches and other involved persons. Additionally, each school has been required to adopt internal protocols to reduce the risk of transmission.

The undersigned acknowledge that they are aware of the highly contagious nature of COVID-19 and the risks that they may be exposed to or contract COVID-19 or other communicable diseases by permitting the undersigned student to participate in interscholastic athletics. We understand and acknowledge that such exposure or infection may result in serious illness, personal injury, permanent disability or death. We acknowledge that this risk may result from or be compounded by the actions, omissions, or negligence of others. The undersigned further acknowledge that certain vulnerable individuals may have greater health risks associated with exposure to COVID-19, including individuals with serious underlying health conditions such as, but not limited to: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, asthma, and those whose immune systems that are compromised by chemotherapy for cancer, and other conditions requiring such therapy. While particular recommendations and personal discipline may reduce the risks associated with participating in athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic, these risks do exist. Additionally, persons with COVID-19 may transmit the disease to others who may be at higher risk of severe complications.

By signing this form, the undersigned acknowledge, after having undertaken to review and understand both symptoms and possible consequences of infection, that we understand that participation in interscholastic athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic is strictly voluntary and that we agree that the undersigned student may participate in such interscholastic athletics. The undersigned also understand that student participants will, in the course of competition, interact with and likely have contact with athletes from their own, as well as other, schools, including schools from other areas of the Commonwealth. Moreover, they understand and acknowledge that our school, PIAA and its member schools cannot guarantee that transmission will not occur for those participating in interscholastic athletics.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE ARE VOLUNTARILY ALLOWING STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGER INVOLVED. WE HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL RISKS OF PERSONAL INJURY, ILLNESS, DISABILITY AND/OR DEATH RELATED TO COVID-19, ARISING FROM SUCH PARTICIPATION, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF PIAA OR OTHERWISE.

We hereby expressly waive and release any and all claims, now known or hereafter known, against the student’s school, PIAA, and its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, successors, and assigns (collectively, "**Releasees**"), on account of injury, illness, disability, death, or property damage arising out of or attributable to Student’s participation in interscholastic athletics and being exposed to or contracting COVID-19, whether arising out of the negligence of PIAA or any Releasees or otherwise. We covenant not to make or bring any such claim against PIAA or any other Releasee, and forever release and discharge PIAA and all other Releasees from liability under such claims.

Additionally, we shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the student’s school, PIAA and all other Releasees against any and all losses, damages, liabilities, deficiencies, claims, actions, judgments, settlements, interest, awards, penalties, fines, costs, or expenses of whatever kind, including attorney fees, fees, and the costs of enforcing any right to indemnification and the cost of pursuing any insurance providers, incurred by/awarded against the student’s school, PIAA or any other Releasees in a final judgment arising out or resulting from any claim by, or on behalf of, any of us related to COVID-19.

We willingly agree to comply with the stated guidelines put forth by the student’s school and PIAA to limit the exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. We certify that the student is, to the best of our knowledge, in good physical condition and allow participation in this sport at our own risk. By signing this Supplement, we acknowledge that we have received and reviewed the student’s school athletic plan.

Date: _____

Signature of Student

Print Student’s Name

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Print Parent/Guardian's Name