MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION, INC.



CONCUSSION POLICY

MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION has developed the MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION

Concussion Protocol to help guide the management of athletes who may have a
suspected concussion as a result of participation in MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION
activities.

Purpose

This protocol covers the recognition, medical diagnosis, and management of **BOWLING COMPETITORS** who may sustain a suspected concussion during a sport activity. It aims to ensure that athletes with a suspected concussion receive timely and appropriate care and proper management to allow them to return back to their sport safely. This protocol may not address every possible clinical scenario that can occur during sport-related activities but includes critical elements based on the latest evidence and current expert consensus.

Who should use this protocol?

This protocol is intended for use by all individuals who interact with athletes inside and outside the context of school and non-school based organized sports activity, including athletes, parents, coaches, officials, teachers, trainers, and licensed healthcare professionals.

For a summary of the **MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION Concussion Protocol** please refer to the **MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION Sport Concussion Pathway** figure at the end of this document.

1. Pre-Season Education

Despite recent increased attention focusing on concussion there is a continued need to improve concussion education and awareness. Optimizing the prevention and management of concussion depends highly on annual education of all sport stakeholders (athletes, parents, coaches, officials, teachers, trainers, licensed healthcare professionals) on current evidence-informed approaches that can prevent concussion and more serious forms of head injury and help identify and manage an athlete with a suspected concussion.

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Concussion education should include information on:

- the definition of concussion,
- possible mechanisms of injury,
- common signs and symptoms,
- steps that can be taken to prevent concussions and other injuries from occurring in sport.
- what to do when an athlete has suffered a suspected concussion or more serious head injury,
- what measures should be taken to ensure proper medical assessment,
- Return-to-School and Return-to-Sport Strategies, and
- Return to sport medical clearance requirements
- Who: Athletes, parents, coaches, officials, teachers, and trainers, licensed healthcare professionals
- ► **How**: Pre-season Concussion Education Sheet

All parents and athletes are required to review and submit a signed copy of the *Preseason Concussion Education Sheet* to their coach prior to the first practice of the season. In addition to reviewing information on concussion, it is also important that all sport stakeholders have a clear understanding of the **MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION Concussion Protocol**.

For example, this can be accomplished through pre-season in-person orientation sessions for athletes, parents, coaches and other sport stakeholders.

2. Head Injury Recognition

Although the formal diagnosis of concussion should be made following a medical assessment, all sport stakeholders including athletes, parents, teachers, coaches, teachers, officials, and licensed healthcare professionals are responsible for the recognition and reporting of athletes who may demonstrate visual signs of a head injury or who report concussion-related symptoms. This is particularly important because many sport and recreation venues will not have access to on-site licensed healthcare professionals.

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A concussion should be suspected:

- in any athlete who sustains a significant impact to the head, face, neck, or body and demonstrates ANY of the visual signs of a suspected concussion or reports ANY symptoms of a suspected concussion as detailed in the Concussion Recognition Tool 5.
- if a player reports ANY concussion symptoms to one of their peers, parents, teachers, or coaches or if anyone witnesses an athlete exhibiting any of the visual signs of concussion.

In some cases, an athlete may demonstrate signs or symptoms of a more severe head or spine injury including convulsions, worsening headaches, vomiting or neck pain. If an athlete demonstrates any of the 'Red Flags' indicated by the *Concussion Recognition Tool 5*, a more severe head or spine injury should be suspected, and Emergency Medical Assessment should be pursued.

- Who: Athletes, parents, coaches, officials, teachers, trainers, and licensed healthcare professionals
- ► How: Concussion Recognition Tool 5

3. Onsite Medical Assessment

Depending on the suspected severity of the injury, an initial assessment may be completed by emergency medical professionals or by an on-site licensed healthcare professional where available.

In cases where an athlete loses consciousness or it is suspected an athlete might have a more severe head or spine injury, Emergency Medical Assessment by emergency medical professionals should take place (see 3a below). If a more severe injury is not suspected, the athlete should undergo Sideline Medical Assessment or Medical Assessment, depending on if there is a licensed healthcare professional present (see 3b below).

3a. Emergency Medical Assessment

If an athlete is suspected of sustaining a more severe head or spine injury during a game or practice, an ambulance should be called immediately to transfer the patient to the nearest emergency department for further Medical Assessment.

Coaches, parents, teachers, trainers and officials should not make any effort to remove equipment or move the athlete until an ambulance has arrived and the athlete should not be left alone until the ambulance arrives. After the emergency medical services staff has completed the Emergency Medical Assessment, the athlete should be transferred to the nearest hospital for Medical Assessment. In the case of youth (under 18 years of age), the athlete's parents should be contacted immediately to inform them of the athlete's injury. For athletes over 18 years of age, their emergency contact person should be contacted if one has been provided

Who: Emergency medical professionals

3b. Sideline Medical Assessment

If an athlete is suspected of sustaining a concussion and there is no concern for a more serious head or spine injury, the player should be immediately removed from the field of play.

Scenario 1: If a licensed healthcare professional is present

The athlete should be taken to a quiet area and undergo Sideline Medical Assessment using the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool 5 (SCAT5) or the Child SCAT5. The SCAT5 and Child SCAT5 are clinical tools that should only be used by a licensed healthcare professional that has experience using these tools. It is important to note that the results of SCAT5 and Child SCAT5 testing can be normal in the setting of acute concussion. As such, these tools can be used by licensed healthcare professionals to document initial neurological status but should not be used to make sideline return-to-sport decisions in youth athletes. Any youth athlete who is suspected of having sustained a concussion must not return to the game or practice and must be referred for Medical Assessment.

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If a youth athlete is removed from play following a significant impact and has undergone assessment by a licensed healthcare professional, but there are NO visual signs of a concussion and the athlete reports NO concussion symptoms then the athlete can be returned to play but should be monitored for delayed symptoms.

In the case of national team-affiliated athletes (age 18 years and older), an experienced certified athletic therapist, physiotherapist or medical doctor providing medical coverage for the sporting event may make the determination that a concussion has not occurred based on the results of the Sideline Medical Assessment.

In these cases, the athlete may be returned to the practice or game without a *Medical Clearance Letter* but this should be clearly communicated to the coaching staff.

Players that have been cleared to return to games or practices should be monitored for delayed symptoms. If the athlete develops any delayed symptoms the athlete should be removed from play and undergo medical assessment by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner.

Scenario 2: If there is no licensed healthcare professional present

The athlete should be referred immediately for medical assessment by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner, and the athlete must not return to play until receiving medical clearance.

- ► Who: Athletic therapists, physiotherapists, medical doctor
- ► **How**: <u>Sport Concussion Assessment Tool 5 (SCAT5), Child Sport Concussion</u> Assessment Tool 5 (Child SCAT5)

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4. Medical Assessment

In order to provide comprehensive evaluation of athletes with a suspected concussion, the medical assessment must rule out more serious forms of traumatic brain and spine injuries, must rule out medical and neurological conditions that can present with concussion-like symptoms, and must make the diagnosis of concussion based on findings of the clinical history and physical examination and the evidence-based use of adjunctive tests as indicated (i.e CT scan).

In addition to nurse practitioners, medical doctors¹ that are qualified to evaluate patients with a suspected concussion include: pediatricians; family medicine, sports medicine, emergency department, internal medicine, and rehabilitation (physiatrists) physicians; neurologists; and neurosurgeons.

In geographic regions of Canada with limited access to medical doctors (i.e. rural or northern communities), a licensed healthcare professional (i.e. nurse) with pre-arranged access to a medical doctor or nurse practitioner can facilitate this role.

The medical assessment is responsible for determining whether the athlete has been diagnosed with a concussion or not. Athletes with a diagnosed concussion should be provided with a *Medical Assessment Letter* indicating a concussion has been diagnosed.

Athletes that are determined to have not sustained a concussion must be provided with a *Medical Assessment Letter* indicating a concussion has not been diagnosed and the athlete can return to school, work and sports activities without restriction.

▶ Who: Medical doctor, nurse practitioner, nurse

How: Medical Assessment Letter

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5. Concussion Management

When an athlete has been diagnosed with a concussion, it is important that the athlete's parent/legal guardian is informed. All athletes diagnosed with a concussion must be provided with a standardized *Medical Assessment Letter* that notifies the athlete and their parents/legal guardians/spouse that they have been diagnosed with a

¹ Medical doctors and nurse practitioners are the only healthcare professionals in Canada with licensed training and expertise to meet these needs; therefore all athletes with a suspected concussion should undergo evaluation by one of these professionals.

concussion and may not return to any activities with a risk of concussion until medically cleared to do so by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner.

Because the *Medical Assessment Letter* contains personal health information, it is the responsibility of the athlete or their parent/legal guardian to provide this documentation to the athlete's coaches, teachers, or employers. It is also important for the athlete to provide this information to sport organization officials that are responsible for injury reporting and concussion surveillance where applicable.

Athletes diagnosed with a concussion should be provided with education about the signs and symptoms of concussion, strategies about how to manage their symptoms, the risks of returning to sport without medical clearance and recommendations regarding a gradual return to school and sport activities. Athletes diagnosed with a concussion are to be managed according to their *Return-to-School and Sport-Specific Return-to-Sport Strategy* under the supervision of a medical doctor or nurse practitioner.

When available, athletes should be encouraged to work with the team athletic therapist or physiotherapist to optimize progression through their *Sport-Specific Return-to-Sport Strategy*. Once the athlete has completed their *Return-to-School and Sport-Specific Return-to-Sport Strategy* and are deemed to be clinically recovered from their concussion, the medical doctor or nurse practitioner can consider the athlete for a return to full sports activities and issue a *Medical Clearance Letter*.

The stepwise progressions for *Return-to-School* and *Return-to-Sport Strategies* are outlined below. As indicated in stage 1 of the *Return-to-Sport Strategy*, reintroduction of daily, school, and work activities using the *Return-to-School Strategy* must precede return to sport participation.

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Return-to-School Strategy

The following is an outline of the *Return-to-School Strategy* that should be used to help student-athletes, parents, and teachers to collaborate in allowing the athlete to make a gradual return to school activities. Depending on the severity and type of the symptoms present student-athletes will progress through the following stages at different rates.

If the student-athlete experiences new symptoms or worsening symptoms at any stage, they should go back to the previous stage. Athletes should also be encouraged to ask

their school if they have a school-specific Return-to-Learn Program in place to help student-athletes make a gradual return to school.

Sta	Aim	Activity	Goal of each step
ge			
1	Daily activities at home that do not give the student- athlete symptoms	Typical activities during the day as long as they do not increase symptoms (i.e. reading, texting, screen time). Start at 5-15 minutes at a time and gradually build up.	Gradual return to typical activities
2	School activities	Homework, reading or other cognitive activities outside of the classroom.	Increase tolerance to cognitive work
3	Return to school part- time	Gradual introduction of schoolwork. May need to start with a partial school day or with increased breaks during the day.	Increase academic activities
4	Return to school full- time	Gradually progress	Return to full academic activities and catch up on missed school work

McCrory et al. (2017). Consensus statement on concussion in sport – the 5th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, *51*(11), 838-847.

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TENPIN BOWLING - Specific Return-to-Sport Strategy

The following is an outline of the Return-to-Sport Strategy that should be used to help athletes, coaches, trainers, and medical professionals to partner in allowing the athlete to make a gradual return to sport activities.

An initial period of 24-48 hours of rest is recommended before starting the **TENPIN BOWLING-Specific Return-to-Sport Strategy.**

The athlete should spend a minimum duration of 24 hours without symptom increases at each stage before progressing to the next one. If the athlete experiences new symptoms or worsening symptoms at any stage, they should go back to the previous stage.

It is important that youth and adult student-athletes return to full-time school activities before progressing to stage 5 and 6 of the *TENPIN BOWLING-Specific Return-to-Sport Strategy.*

It is also **important that all athletes** <u>provide their coach with a Medical Clearance</u> <u>Letter prior to returning to full participation</u> sport activities.

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Stage	Aim	Activity	Goal of each step
1	Symptom-	Daily activities that do not provoke	Gradual re-
	limiting	symptoms	introduction of
	activity		work/school
			activities
2	Light	Walking at slow to medium pace. No	Increase heart rate
	aerobic	resistance training	
	activity	-Light intensity stretching or aerobic	
		for 15-20 minutes at sub-symptom	

		threshold intensity	
3	Sport- specific exercise	Focusing on approach & finishing position analysis. - Moderate ball delivery & targeting drills for 15-20 minutes at subsymptom threshold intensity	Add movement
4	Non-contact training drills	More intense training drills, i.e. regular speed approach & delivery Participation at higher intensity competitive training drills	Exercise, coordination and increased thinking
5	Full contact practice	Following medical clearance - Participation in full practice without activity restriction	Restore confidence and assess functional skills by coaching staff
6	Return to sport	Normal game play	

McCrory et al. (2017). Consensus statement on concussion in sport – the 5th international conference on concussion in sport held in Berlin, October 2016. *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, *51*(11), 838-847.

- ► Who: Medical doctor, nurse practitioner and team athletic therapist or physiotherapist (where available)
- ► **How**: Return-to-Learn Strategy, Sport-Specific Return-to Sport Strategy, Medical Assessment Letter

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6. Multidisciplinary Concussion Care

Most athletes who sustain a concussion while participating in sport will make a complete recovery and be able to return to full school and sport activities within 1-4 weeks of injury. However, approximately 15-30% of individuals will experience symptoms that persist beyond this time frame.

If available, individuals who experience persistent post-concussion symptoms (>4 weeks for youth athletes, >2 weeks for adult athletes) may benefit from referral to a medically supervised multidisciplinary concussion clinic that has access to professionals with licensed training in traumatic brain injury that may include experts in sport medicine, neuropsychology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, neurology, neurosurgery, and rehabilitation medicine.

Referral to a multidisciplinary clinic for assessment should be made on an individualized basis at the discretion of an athlete's medical doctor or nurse practitioner.

If access to a multidisciplinary concussion clinic is not available, a referral to a medical doctor with clinical training and experience in concussion (e.g. a sport medicine physician, neurologist, or rehabilitation medicine physician) should be considered for the purposes of developing an individualized treatment plan.

Depending on the clinical presentation of the individual, this treatment plan may involve a variety of health care professionals with areas of expertise that address the specific needs of the athlete based on the assessment findings.

▶ Who: Multidisciplinary medical team, medical doctor with clinical training and experience in concussion (e.g. a sports medicine physician, neurologist, or rehabilitation medicine physician), licensed healthcare professionals

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7. Return to Sport

Athletes who have been determined to have not sustained a concussion and those that have been diagnosed with a concussion and have successfully completed their *Return-to-School and [Name of Sport]-Specific Return-to-Sport Strategy* can be considered for return to full sports activities.

The final decision to medically clear an athlete to return to full game activity should be based on the clinical judgment of the medical doctor or nurse practitioner taking into

account the athlete's past medical history, clinical history, physical examination findings and the results of other tests and clinical consultations where indicated (i.e. neuropsychological testing, diagnostic imaging).

Prior to returning to full contact practice and game play, each athlete that has been diagnosed with a concussion must provide their coach with a standardized *Medical Clearance Letter* that specifies that a medical doctor or nurse practitioner has personally evaluated the patient and has cleared the athlete to return to sports. In geographic regions of Canada with limited access to medical doctors (i.e. rural or northern communities), a licensed healthcare professional (such as a nurse) with pre-arranged access to a medical doctor or nurse practitioner can provide this documentation.

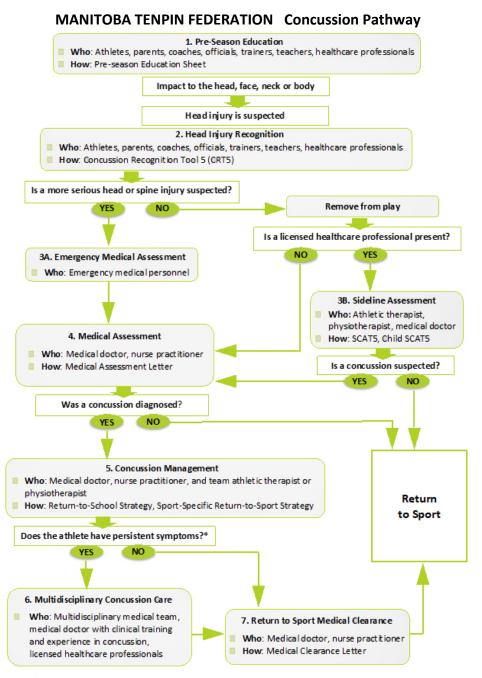
A copy of the *Medical Clearance Letter* should also be submitted to sports organization officials that have injury reporting and surveillance programs where applicable.

Athletes who have been provided with a *Medical Clearance Letter* may return to full sport activities as tolerated. If the athlete experiences any new concussion-like symptoms while returning to play, they should be instructed to stop playing immediately, notify their parents, coaches, trainer or teachers, and undergo follow-up *Medical Assessment*. In the event that the athlete sustains a new suspected concussion, the **MANITOBA TENPIN FEDERATION Concussion Protocol** should be followed as outlined here.

Who: Medical doctor, nurse practitioner

Document: Medical Clearance Letter

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*Persistent symptoms: lasting > 4 weeks in children & youth or > 2 weeks in adults

CONCUSSION EDUCATION & AWARENESS PROGRAM
PSO Implementation Plan Guide

Steps	Notes/Details	
1. Adopt the Sport Specific "Detailed Concussion Protocol Documentation" 2. Post the following documents on your site.	 Develop your Sports detailed Concussion Protocol Document using the template provided by Parachute Canada OR your NSOs protocol This template is find and replace with your name and also insert your logo A hyperlink to this document should be put on your website so the full document can be accessed. The Pre-season Concussion Education Sheet (includes Return to School and Return to Sport Strategy) This Parachute Document can be found at this Link - http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/injurytopics/PreSeason-Education-Sheet Parachute.pdf This resource tool can be used with your members programs, teams, leagues etc. Ideally parents and athletes receive this information and sign and acknowledging receipt of this information. Sport Manitoba requests that Provincial Team 	
	Sport Manitoba requests that Provincial Team athletes, parent/guardian sign and return these	
	documents to the PSO office. 2. Concussion Recognition Tool - "Recognize & Remove"	
	Document Link- http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/CRT5.pdf A simple one page document that can be shared with all coaches, managers, sport trainers/safety officers (where applicable).	
	3. Medical Assessment Tool	
	 Parachute Document Link- http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/injurytopic s/Medical-Assessment-Letter Parachute.pdf This document can be used by an athlete's 	

- Physician or Nurse Practitioner as the official "Medical Assessment Tool"
- Your members should know this document can be easily accessed by the Physician or Nurse Practitioner on-line, OR your members can bring the paper copy into the assessment and request that it be completed.

4. Medical Clearance Letter

Parachute Document Link-

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/injurytopics/Medical-Clearance-Letter Parachute.pdf

Athletes who are diagnosed with a concussion should be managed according to the Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport including the Return-to-School and Return-to-Sport Strategies

- No athlete that has been diagnosed and is being treated for a concussion should be "returned to play" without presenting the *Medical Clearance Letter*.
- The message to your coaches, parents and athletes should be very clear as to the requirement of this document for clearance to play.
- 5. Sport Specific "Return to Play" Protocol
 - Parachute Document Link

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Concussion-ReturnToSport.pdf

 Use the basic Return to Play guidelines as the minimum standard and hope for progress in the upcoming year. Ideally NSOs will make progress in this area.

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The following are additional approved resources that you may want to add to your site:

- Concussion 101 Video- A Primer for Kids and Parents (Youtube Video)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCCD52Pty4A

Coach and Leader Education - NCCP Making Headway in Sport

- If your NSO/PSO has mandated the Making Headway in Sport Program this can be used as an additional place to remind your coaches etc of this requirement.
- We suggest you create a Hyperlink that will take the coach, manager etc directly to the on-line course –

https://coach.ca/making-head-way-concussion-elearning-series-p153487

 What's your Concussion IQ? (short quiz available via Coach.ca <u>OPTIONAL</u> if you want to create a hyperlink)
 Concussion IQ Link-

https://coach.ca/what-s-your-concussion-iq--p153386

Face-to-Face Workshop

Book a Concussion Workshop for your team or organization:

Sport Manitoba and the Sport Medicine and Science
Council of MB have partnered to offer concussion
workshops throughout the province to educated athletes,
coaches, parents, and all members of the sports
community on concussion recognition. This aligns with
the standardized sport-specific concussion protocols
approved by Sport Manitoba and Manitoba's Provincial
Sport Organizations. The workshop will address many
questions on what a concussion is, how to spot the signs
and symptoms, what to do, how to prevent future
concussions, and the proper steps to return to the field of
play.

Click here to book your team/clubs workshop - https://www.sportmed.mb.ca/concussion-workshop/

Additional Education/ Awareness Tools

Parachute Canada has created a variety of tools that can be used by your PSO and membership to increase education and awareness on concussions.

We share this as it is additional information & promotional tools that are available via the Parachute website.

NOTE- We are **NOT** asking you to place these on your website, but they may prove helpful in Team Handbooks, Program advertising etc.. In some cases they may be considered duplication with some of the above documents

To assist you Sport Manitoba has customized these documents for your use:

A parent's Guide to dealing with concussions -

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Concussion-ParentTipSheet.pdf

Concussion Guidelines for Parents & Caregivers

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Concussion-Parents-Caregivers.pdf

Concussion Guidelines for Coaches and Trainers

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Concussion-Coaches.pdf

Concussion: The Basics

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Concussion Basics.pdf

Brain Injuries Fact Sheet

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/PARA Brain Injuries.pdf

Poster: I'm Not Invincible - Boy

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Nathan Poster ENG new-updatedURL.pdf

Poster: I'm Not Invincible - Girl

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Katherine Poster ENG new-updatedURL.pdf

Poster: Preventable: Have a Word With Yourself V.1

http://www.parachutecanada.org/downloads/resources/Preventable ConcussionPoster proathletes.pdf

Poster: Preventable: Have a Word With Yourself

Other Sports Websites

• Following links can be looked at for ideas:

http://footballmanitoba.com/page.php?page_id=104604 http://ringettemanitoba.ca/concussions/

https://manitobalacrosse.com/concussion-protocol/

https://www.mbspeedskating.com/concussion-landing-

page.html

http://www.baseballmanitoba.ca/administration/about-

baseball-manitoba/concussion-awareness

https://mods.mb.ca/about/injuries/

Adapted from: Parachute. (2017). Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport. www.parachutecanada.org/quideline