



SAFESPORT TRAINING

Employees, Volunteers and other Covered Personnel that have contact with athletes must successfully complete the U.S. Center for SafeSport training every year. **To access free training and certification, go to www.georgiasoccer.org/member/risk-management/**

PROHIBITED CONDUCT POLICY

Georgia Soccer is committed to maintaining soccer programs that are free from all forms of sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, emotional misconduct, physical misconduct, bullying and hazing. Any violation of this Policy may be subjected to disciplinary action or arrest. **All Adults are responsible to help ensure that we avoid misconduct. Adults are thus charged with reporting any concerns regarding compliance with the Safe Soccer Framework in the manner provided in the Safe Soccer Framework Handbook. Covered Personnel, as defined under the Safe Sport Act, will be required to report to law enforcement and/or the U.S. Center for SafeSport.**

HARASSMENT

Unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, physical or visual, based upon a person's protected status.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, written, or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment.

RACIAL, RELIGIOUS OR ORIGIN HARASSMENT

Racial, religious, or national origin harassment is prohibited.

HAZING

Coercing, requiring, forcing or willfully tolerating any humiliating, unwelcome or dangerous activity that serves as a condition for (a) joining a group or (b) being socially accepted by a group's members.

Additionally, the Center has created one-page summaries of each topic of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies, including: **One-on-One Guidelines, Massage and Rubdown Athletic Training Modalities Guidelines, Locker Rooms/Changing Area Guidelines and many more.**

These can be found at www.georgiasoccer.org/member/risk-management/

PHYSICAL MISCONDUCT

Physical misconduct in all forms is prohibited. Physical misconduct is defined as contact or noncontact conduct that results in, or reasonably threatens to, cause physical harm to another person; or any act or conduct described as physical abuse or misconduct under federal or state law.

BULLYING

Intentional, persistent and repeated pattern of committing or willfully tolerating physical and non-physical behaviors that are intended, or have the reasonable potential, to cause fear, humiliation or physical harm in an attempt to socially exclude, diminish or isolate the targeted athlete(s), as a condition of membership are prohibited.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Any sexual activity with a child is prohibited.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Any sexual interaction between an athlete and an adult is prohibited.

CONCUSSION

a traumatic brain injury that interferes with normal brain function. Medically, a concussion is a complex event to the brain that is induced by trauma which may or may not involve a loss of consciousness. Concussion results in physical, cognitive, emotional, and sleep-related symptoms. Signs or symptoms may last from several minutes to days, weeks, months or even longer in some cases.

SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, AND MANAGEMENT AT TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS

1 Did a concussion occur?
Evaluate the player and note if any of the following signs and/or symptoms are present:

- Dazed look or confusion about what happened
- Memory difficulties
- Neck pain, headaches, nausea, vomiting, double vision, blurriness, ringing noise or sensitive to sounds
- Short attention span; can't keep focused
- Slow reaction time, slurred speech, bodily movements are lagging, fatigued, and slowly answers questions or has difficulty answering questions
- Abnormal physical and/or mental behavior
- Coordination skills are slowed, ex: balancing, dizziness, clumsiness, reaction time

2 Is immediate emergency treatment needed?
This would include the following scenarios:

- Spine or neck injury or pain
- Behavior patterns change, unable to recognize people/ places, less responsive than usual
- Loss of consciousness
- Worsening headaches
- Seizures
- Very drowsy
- Repeated vomiting
- Increasing confusion or irritability
- Weakness, numbness in arms and legs

Players shall not re-enter competition, training, or participate in any activities for at least 24 hours. Even if there are no signs or symptoms after 15-20 min, activity should not be taken by the player.

3 If a possible concussion occurred, but no immediate emergency treatment is needed, what should be done now?
Focus on these areas every 5-10 min for the next 1 - 2 hours, without returning to any activities:

- Balance, movement
- Speech
- Memory, instructions and responses
- Attention on topics, details, confusion, ability to concentrate
- State of consciousness
- Mood, behavior and personality
- Headache or pressure in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Sensitivity to light and noise

5 A player diagnosed with a possible concussion may return to Georgia Soccer play only after their parent or legal guardian provides a signed Return to Play form from a Georgia Licensed health care provider (as defined under current GA law) to the local affiliate coach.

4 If there is a possibility of a concussion, do the following:

- The **CONCUSSION NOTIFICATION FORM** is to be filled out in duplicate and signed by a team official of the player's team.
- Have the parent/legal guardian sign and date the Form, and give the parent/legal guardian one of the copies of the completed Form. If the parent/legal guardian is not present, then the team official is responsible for notifying the parent/legal guardian ASAP by phone or email and then submitting the Form to the parent/legal guardian by email or mail. The notification will include a request for the parent/legal guardian to provide confirmation and completion of the Concussion Notification Form whether in writing or electronically.