

**JEFFERSON COUNTY MIDGET FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (JMFA)  
CONCUSSION TRAINING AND TREATMENT POLICY**

The JMFA Concussion Training and Treatment Policy is adopted by the Board of Directors of the JMFA as a response to and in order to assure compliance with the Jake Snakenberg Youth Concussion Act, Colorado Revised Statutes 25-42-101, *et seq.* with an effective date of January 1, 2012. The Act requires that organizations sponsoring youth athletic activities require each volunteer coach and each coach employed or engaged by the organization to complete an annual concussion recognition education course. The Act defines “youth athletic activities” as any organized activity where a majority of the participants are 11 years of age or older. The Act further provides that if a coach suspects that a youth athlete has sustained a concussion following an observed or suspected blow to the head or body during any game, competition, or practice, that the coach immediately remove the athlete from the game, competition, or practice. Once an athlete is removed from play, if the signs and symptoms cannot be readily explained by a condition other than a concussion, the athlete’s parent must be notified and the athlete shall not be allowed to return to play in any supervised team activities involving physical exertion until there is an evaluation by a health-care provider and the athlete has received written clearance to return to play from the health-care provider. The Act defines a “health-care provider” as a doctor of medicine, a doctor of osteopathic medicine, a licensed nurse practitioner, a licensed physician assistant, or a licensed doctor of psychology with training in neuro-psychology or concussion evaluation.

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a set of guidelines and protocols which will be followed by the JMFA and its volunteers and coaches for concussion training and treatment, in order to comply with the Act. The JMFA Policy is as follows:

1. **Concussion Training.** The following coaches, volunteers and trainers engaged by or performing volunteer services for JMFA teams in the 11 through 14 age groups shall be required to complete an annual concussion recognition education course:

A. All JMFA Coaches, Assistant Coaches;

B. All Assistant Coaches of ages 11 to 14 teams, whether performing those services for pay or as a volunteer. For purposes of this subsection, an “Assistant Coach” is defined as any individual who is designated as an assistant coach on a team roster or who participates as an assistant coach on the players’ sideline during games, or who conducts practice or training sessions for ages 11 to 14 team;

C. Any paid personnel or volunteer who assumes responsibility for coaching ages 11 to 14 team on a substitute or temporary basis in the absence of the regular coach.

2. **Timing for Completion of Concussion Training.** Each head coach and every trainer providing training services to ages 11 to 14 teams for JMFA shall complete their annual concussion recognition course on or before September 1, 2012, and September 1 of each year thereafter. By way of example, in the fall of 2012, each coach must provide the certification to JMFA for fall 2012.

Every other person identified as required to receive concussion recognition education as set forth in paragraph 1., above, shall be required to provide certification of completion on an annual basis before performing any coaching or training services on a volunteer basis for a 11 to 14 team.

3. **Removal for Suspicion of Concussion.** If a coach or assistant coach suspects that a youth athlete has sustained a concussion following an observed or suspected blow to the head or

body in a game, competition or practice, the athlete shall be immediately removed from the game, competition or practice.

After such removal, if the signs and symptoms cannot be readily explained by a condition other than a concussion, the following shall occur:

A. The coach shall notify either Team Manager or JMFA representative and the athlete shall not be allowed to return to play or participate in any supervised team activities involving physical exertion until there has been compliance with subparagraph C., below;

B. The Coach or Team Manager shall notify the athlete's parent or legal guardian of the possibility or suspicion of concussion and that the athlete shall not be permitted to return to play or participate in any supervised team activity involving physical exertion until the athlete is evaluated by a health-care provider and receives written clearance to return to play from the health-care provider;

C. The written clearance to return to play from the health-care provider must be provided to JMFA for the Area and upon receipt of that written clearance, JMFA for Area will notify the coach that the athlete is cleared to return to play, as well as any conditions which may be placed upon that clearance by the health-care provider. The coach shall not allow the youth athlete to play or participate in any supervised team activities involving physical exertion until the coach has received notice from JMFA/or the Area that written clearance to return to play has been received by JMFA or the Area.

4. **Record Keeping.** JMFA or the Area shall maintain copies of certificates evidencing the annual completion of concussion recognition education courses by all required personnel as specified in paragraph 1., above; shall maintain copies of all notices to parents or legal guardians of athletes who are suspected of potentially suffering a concussion; and shall maintain copies of

all written clearances from health-care providers allowing such athletes to return to play. These records shall be maintained for a period of five years.