

HORRY COUNTY SCHOOLS ATHLETICS EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Introduction

Emergency situations may arise at any time during athletic events. Expedient action must be taken in order to provide the best possible care to the sport participant of emergency and/or life threatening conditions. The development and implementation of an emergency plan will help ensure that the best care will be provided.

As emergencies may occur at any time and during any activity, all school activities workers must be prepared. Athletic organizations have a duty to develop an emergency plan that may be implemented immediately when necessary and to provide appropriate standards of emergency care to all sports participants. As athletic injuries may occur at any time and during any activity, the sports medicine team must be prepared. This preparation involves formulation of an emergency plan, proper coverage of events, maintenance of appropriate emergency equipment and supplies, utilization of appropriate emergency medical personnel, and continuing education in the area of emergency medicine and planning. Hopefully, through careful pre-participation physical screenings, adequate medical coverage, safe practice and training techniques and other safety avenues, some potential emergencies may be averted. However, accidents and injuries are inherent with sports participation, and proper preparation on the part of the sports medicine team should enable each emergency situation to be managed appropriately.

Components of the Emergency Plan

These are the basic components of every emergency action plan for athletics:

1. Emergency Personnel
2. Emergency Communication
3. Emergency Equipment
4. Roles of Certified Athletic Trainers, Student Trainers, Coaches, And Administrators
5. Venue Directions with map

Emergency Personnel:

Certified Athletic Trainer, Adult Sports Medicine Volunteer, Coaches, Nurse (during school hours), Athletic Director, Administrators, School Resource Officer, Athletic Training Student

Emergency Communication:

Cell Phone, Land line phone in closest location

Emergency Equipment:

AED with Sports Medicine Staff, AED in school building, all other equipment is with the Sports Medicine Staff

Roles of First Responder:

1. Initial assessment of injured athlete
2. Immediate care of injured athlete
3. Activation of EMS / Notify Sports Medicine Staff by radio or cell phone if not on site
4. Open Doors/Gates and Direct EMS to location
5. Scene / Crowd Control

Activation of EMS:

1. Call 911 from cell phone or 9-911 from land line phone in school building
 - a. Provide name, title or position, address, and telephone number where you can be reached
 - b. Number of individuals injured
 - c. Condition of injured person (conscious/unconscious, breathing/not breathing, etc.)
 - d. Type of injury (if known)
 - e. 1st aid treatment being given
 - f. Directions to injured athlete
 - g. Other information as requested by EMS

****DO NOT HANG UP UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO****

Venue Directions:

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

*****DO NOT** release **any** information regarding the injury to any party other than parents/guardians. If a bystander approaches you with questions concerning the situation, refer them to the athletic director or principal. The Athletic Trainer/ Director will be responsible for notifying the principal. *******

**** A member of the athletic staff must accompany the student-athlete to the hospital unless the parent is on site****

Roles of Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC)

1. Preventative care for all student-athletes (includes evaluation, consultation, taping, and use of therapeutic modalities such as whirlpool, electronic stimulation, ultrasound, intermittent compression, and hot and cold therapy)
2. Immediate evaluation and care of the more seriously-injured or ill student-athletes.
3. Activation of emergency medical system (EMS)
4. Return to play decision-making on the injured student-athlete;
5. Physician referral of the injured student-athlete;
6. Contacting the parent(s) of the injured student-athlete;
7. Rehabilitative care for injured student-athletes (includes evaluation, consultation, taping, and use of therapeutic modalities such as whirlpool, electronic stimulation, ultrasound, intermittent compression, and hot and cold therapy). Rehabilitation should follow physician protocols.

Roles of Athletic Director

1. Crowd control – no one should be allowed onto the accident scene other than police, EMS, or trained personnel.
2. Secure the accident scene of all athletes.

Roles of Head Coach

1. Provide appropriate emergency care until arrival of ATC and/or EMS personnel.
2. Secure the accident scene of all athletes.
3. Crowd control if athletic director not present.
4. Scene control: limit scene to sports medicine personnel and move bystanders (including players) away from area

Roles of Assistant Coach (es)

1. Provide appropriate emergency care until arrival of ATC and/or EMS personnel.
2. Retrieve emergency equipment and provide it to the certified athletic trainer.
3. Contact EMS (ambulance) if instructed
4. Unlock and open gate between school and practice fields
5. Direct EMS personnel (ambulance) to scene
 6. Designate individual to “flag down” EMS and direct to scene

Roles of the School Administration

1. Crowd control – no one should be allowed onto the accident scene other than police, EMS, or trained personnel.
 2. Notification of School District Personnel: Director of Secondary Schools, Public Relations