

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	SECTION 10000
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10400 Student Activities

10471 Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention

The District recognizes the importance of being cognizant of the safety of students participating in the District's athletic programs. This policy has been developed to provide guidance for prevention, detection and treatment of sudden cardiac arrest suffered by students while participating in an athletic activity.

As used in this policy, "appropriate medical professional" shall mean any and all of the following:

1. A licensed physician.
2. A certified registered nurse practitioner.
3. A licensed cardiologist.

"Athletic activity" shall mean any and all of the following:

1. Interscholastic athletics (defined as all athletic contests or competitions conducted between or among school entities situated in counties of the second class, second class A, third class, fourth class, fifth class, sixth class, seventh class and eighth class).
2. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.
3. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.
4. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities listed under the preceding 3 paragraphs.

Guidelines

Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Information Sheet.

The District may hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for all ages of competitors regarding the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest. In

addition to students, parents, coaches and other school officials, informational meetings may include physicians, pediatric cardiologists and athletic trainers.

Removal From Play

A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student's team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, licensed physical therapist or other appropriate medical professional, exhibits signs or symptoms that he or she is at imminent risk of a sudden cardiac arrest while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time.

Return To Play

A student removed from participation shall not be permitted to return to participation in an athletic activity until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an appropriate medical professional.

Training

All coaches shall annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity, complete a sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of State High School Associations or another provider approved by the Department of Health.

Penalties

A coach found in violation of the provisions of this policy related to removal from play and return to play shall be subject to penalties and discipline, including termination, as deemed appropriate by the District pursuant to applicable laws, District policies, and bargaining unit agreements. Effective July 30, 2014, the following minimum penalties shall be required by law:

1. For a first violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season.
2. For a second violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season and for the next season.
3. For a third violation, permanent suspension from coaching any athletic activity.

Adoption Date	-
Revised	-
Practice	-
Legal Reference	- 24 P.S. §5331 et. seq.
Cross Reference	- Policy 7135