

# CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT POLICY

Adopted by WMBA: 03/14/2022

Welland Minor Baseball Association is committed to reducing the risk of concussion and the health impacts related to concussions from baseball activities for players, coaches, umpires and third parties. Welland Minor Baseball Association follows Baseball Ontario's Concussion Management Protocol as such adopts this policy.

The Welland Minor Baseball Association Concussion Management Policy is adopted from Baseball Ontario's Concussion Management Protocol which is detailed here. This policy, in alignment with Rowan's Law and the recommendations of the Rowan's Law Advisory Committee, is developed around four standards:

1. A recognized standard of practice for concussion management is used
  - 1.1. **The International Concussion consensus guidelines (Zurich) on Management of Concussion in Sports** will be the standard of practice for concussion management in Welland Minor Baseball Association
  - 1.2. Welland Minor Baseball Association will provide access to the **International Concussion consensus guidelines (Zurich) on Management of Concussion in Sports** on its website
  - 1.3. Welland Minor Baseball Association will provide access to an appropriate **Concussion Recognition Tool** on its website
2. Youth baseball players, coaches and parents are provided education on sport-related concussions
  - 2.1. Welland Minor Baseball Association through its registration process will ensure all parents, coaches, players, umpires, and trainers will complete concussion education annually prior to registering using resources provided by the Province of Ontario.
  - 2.2. Welland Minor Baseball Association will provide access to appropriate concussion education resources provided by the Province of Ontario on its website
  - 2.3. All parents and athletes will sign a **participation agreement** confirming that they have participated in pre-season concussion education and that they understand the signs and symptoms of concussion
  - 2.4. Welland Minor Baseball Association will provide access to standardized / sample forms and materials required for a Coach's Binder such as: medical and emergency contact information forms, tracking tools for specific player injuries, a concussion recognition tool, contact information for coaches of other concurrent sports, forms to help track attendance at practices and mandatory injury prevention sessions, permission forms and other documentation of best practices

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- 2.5. Welland Minor Baseball Association will work with Baseball Ontario, Niagara District Baseball Association, and the required Ontario Ministries to ensure that processes and procedures for mandatory reporting are available to teams and members when implemented.
3. Any player or umpire should remove themselves from play, or be withheld from play, if a concussion is suspected or is likely to have occurred
  - 3.1. Welland Minor Baseball Association has implemented a Designated Person Policy to identify any injuries or concerns about a player's or umpire's wellbeing. This designated person is familiar with this protocol and the use of an appropriate **Concussion Recognition Tool**
  - 3.2. In the event of suspected injuries, players/parents and umpires should be encouraged to seek medical attention
4. Players and umpires will not return to play if a concussion is suspected or is likely to have occurred until the appropriate **Return to Play** protocols have been followed (as per the Designated Person Policy) and/or **medical clearance** is received
  - 4.1. Welland Minor Baseball Association will provide members access to appropriate **return to learn** and **return to play** protocols through the association website
  - 4.2. Welland Minor Baseball Association will provide access to an appropriate **medical clearance** form

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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bill Bouck'.

Bill Bouck (President, WMBA)