



USA Softball of Southern California

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To: USA Softball of Southern California Leagues and Teams

Assembly Bill No. 2007, Youth Athletics: Youth Sports Organizations: Concussions or other Head Injuries.

Prior to January 1, 2017, law required a school district, charter school or private school, that offered an athletic program to immediately remove an athlete from an athletic activity for the remainder of the day if the athlete was suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury, and prohibited the athlete from returning to the athletic activity until the athlete was evaluated by a licensed health care provider, trained in the management of concussions, and acting within the scope of their practice, and the athlete received written clearance from the licensed health care provider to return to the athletic activity. The law also required, on a yearly basis, that a concussion and head injury information sheet be signed and returned by the athlete and the athlete's parent/guardian before the athlete's initiating practice or competition.

On September 23, 2016, The Governor signed into law Assembly Bill 2007, which, on January 1, 2017, applied the above-mentioned provisions to athletes participating in youth sports organizations. The youth organizations are defined to include organizations, businesses, nonprofit entities, or local governmental agencies that sponsor or conduct amateur sports competitions, training, camps, or clubs in which persons 17 years of age and younger participate in any of the 27 designated sports. One of the designated sports is Softball. Therefore, youth softball organizations are now required to notify the parents or guardians of athletes 17 years of age or younger who have been removed from athletic activities due to suspected concussions, as specified in the following pages. The law requires youth softball organizations to offer concussion and head injury education, or related educational materials, or both, to each coach and administrator on a yearly basis, as prescribed in the following pages. The law further requires each coach and administrator to successfully complete the concussion and head injury education at least once annually either online or in person. Additionally, the law requires youth softball organizations to identify procedures for ensuring compliance with the law's requirements for providing concussion and head injury education and a concussion and head injury information sheet. The law further requires youth softball organizations to identify procedures to ensure compliance with the athlete removal provisions and the return-to-play protocol, as specified. This law applies to all persons participating in youth softball, regardless of age. Youth softball organizations may adopt and enforce rules intended to provide a higher standard or safety for athletes than the standard established by this law.

To assist the youth softball leagues and teams affiliated with USA Softball of Southern California comply with AB 2007, information, materials and online links can be found in the following pages as listed below.

- Youth Sports and Concussions (Assembly Bill 2007)
- Concussion Information Sheet, or
- Parent and Athlete Concussion Policy Statement Sheet
- Graded Concussion Symptom Checklist
- Acute Concussion Notification Form for Parents/Guardians
- Concussion Return-to-Play (RTP) Protocol
- Concussion Certification for Coaches and Administrators
- Physician Letter to League/Team (Concussion)

Please contact our Junior Olympic Commissioner or any other member of our Junior Olympic Staff should you require assistance or more information.