



Addressing Physical Injuries Policy

Intent

Red Circle Hockey Club (RCHC) is committed to promptly addressing any injuries sustained by our players. The purpose of this policy is to outline procedures to take when an injury occurs.

Definitions

- Risk Management Committee – is an independent committee of the Board of Directors that has oversight of RCHC's health and safety responsibilities. The purpose of the Risk Management Committee is to manage health and safety risks related to player injuries and concussions, vulnerable sector checks and the enforcement of various RCHC health and safety policies.

Policy/Procedure

Injuries

When an on-ice injury occurs, the player must exit the ice on their own and review the injury with their coaching staff. If the injury is minor and can be addressed on the bench, the player may return to the ice when it is safe to do so. Please be aware that players are prohibited from returning to the ice if they have open wounds or blood on their jersey. Under no circumstances should an injured player be forced to continue playing. Players should only return to the ice if they feel safe and comfortable doing so and have the approval of their coaching staff.

When an on-ice injury occurs and the player cannot exit the ice on their own, the coaching staff or officials must notify the arena staff of the injury. The player must remain on the ice until the arena staff arrive to address the injury. Coaching staff are not permitted to enter the ice without the permission of the game officials or to attempt to assist the player in leaving the ice or standing or sitting up. Where the injury is major or severe, the arena staff should call an ambulance as soon as possible.

Concussions

When the coaching staff of a team suspects that a player may have sustained a concussion, the player must immediately stop participating in the hockey activity. A hockey activity is defined as any on-ice or off-ice function involving physical activity. If there is doubt as to whether a concussion has occurred, it is to be assumed that a concussion has occurred. The player will not be permitted to return to hockey activities until they can provide the coaching staff with written permission from a medical doctor. Coaching staff must forward the medical documentation on to the convenor who will forward it to the Risk Management Committee for review. RCHC encourages any player who has been diagnosed with a concussion by a medical doctor to follow any treatment plan provided to them by their doctor.