



3-304 Stone Rd W, Suite 510
Guelph, Ontario
Canada
N1G 4W4

Created August 2019

Concussion Code of Conduct for Volunteers

Purpose:

On July 1, 2019 *Rowan's Law* Concussion Code of Conduct came into effect. All volunteers are required to confirm that they have reviewed Stanley Stick Hockey Association (SSHA) Concussion Code of Conduct for Volunteers every year before serving with the organization. *Rowan's Law* also requires parents of athletes under the age of 18 to confirm that they have reviewed the SSHA Concussion Code for Parents every year before their child plays hockey. If you have any questions regarding this Concussion Code of Conduct policy, please contact your Convenor or a member of the Executive.

I can help prevent concussions through my:

- Efforts to ensure that the participants wear the proper equipment and wear it correctly.
- Efforts to help the participants develop their skills and strength so they may participate to the best of their abilities.
- Respect for the rules of hockey and an understanding of SSHA policies and values regarding fair play and respect for all.

I will care for the health and safety of all participants by taking concussions seriously. I understand that:

- A concussion is a brain injury that can have both short and long-term effects.
- A blow to the head, face, or neck, or a blow to the body may cause the brain to move around inside the skull and result in a concussion.
- A person doesn't need to lose consciousness to have had a concussion.
- A participant with a suspected concussion should stop participating in a practice or a game **immediately**.
- I will report all concussions of participants, other coaches/referees including self-reporting of possible concussion to the Convenor immediately. The parent/guardian will also be informed of each incident immediately. I will complete the SSHA Concussion Report Form that was provided to all coaches and included in all equipment bags.
- Continuing to participate in further practices or games with a suspected concussion increases a person's risk of more severe, longer lasting symptoms, and increases their risk of other injuries or even death.



3-304 Stone Rd W, Suite 510
Guelph, Ontario
Canada
N1G 4W4

I will create an environment where participants feel safe and comfortable speaking up. I will:

- Encourage participants not to hide their symptoms, but to tell me, a parent or another adult they trust if they experience **any** symptoms of a concussion after an impact.
- Lead by example. I will tell a fellow coach or referee and the Convenor or Referee in Chief and seek medical attention by a physician or nurse practitioner if I am experiencing any concussion symptoms.
- Understand and respect that any participant with a suspected concussion must be removed from sport. Participants will not be permitted to return to sport until they undergo a medical assessment by a physician or nurse practitioner and provide written consent that they have been medically cleared to resume sport.
- Commit to providing opportunities before and after each, practice and game to enable athletes to discuss potential issues related to concussions.

I will support all participants to take the time they need to recover.

- I understand my commitment to supporting the physician or nurse practitioner's recommendation regarding the participants return-to-sport process.
- I understand that participants will have to be cleared by a physician or nurse practitioner before returning to sport.
- I will respect my fellow coaches, referees, parents, physicians and nurse practitioners and any decisions made with regards to the health and safety of participants.

By signing here, I acknowledge that I have fully reviewed and commit to this Concussion Code of Conduct.

Coach/Referee/Executive Member Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____