

2016 CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

On February 9, at the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association (ENYYSA) general meeting, ENYYSA announced to its 11 leagues the new concussion protocol for all matches under ENYYSA jurisdiction:

Whenever a player's head is injured, regardless of the type of collision (for example, with an opponent or teammate - or an object on the field such as a goal post) the **safety of that player** is of prime concern. Any youth player who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or injury in a practice or game shall be immediately removed from the game. *The player's pass will be retained by the referee and submitted along with the game report to your league office.* [Players can return to play with clearance from a medical doctor.](#)

Substitution Rules for Players Suspected of having a concussion in a league or club **tournament**.

1) If a player is suspected of having a concussion by the referees, a team official, or any league officials, that player will be withdrawn from the game immediately.

2) *That player's card will be obtained by the referee with a notation made on the lineup card.* The *notification of possible concussion form* will be completed. The player's card will be sent by the tournament director to the league office where the player is registered, along with the notification of possible concussion form, immediately after the tournament.

3) Once the league office receives a medical clearance from a health care professional (MD, DO, or athletic trainer who is certified in assessing and addressing concussions) the player pass should be mailed back to the coach via express mail (24 hours) with a copy of the correspondence to the parents.

Substitution Rules for Players Suspected of having a concussion in a **league match** (including State Cup and ENYPL games).

1)) If a player is suspected of having a concussion by the referees, a team official, or any league officials, that player will be withdrawn from the game immediately.

2) That player's player pass must be *retained by the referee.* *A notation must be made on the lineup card,* and that and that player pass must be sent to the league office (with an incident report) [within 24 hours.](#)

3) Once the league office receives a medical clearance from a health care professional (MD, DO, or athletic trainer who is certified in assessing and addressing concussions) the player pass should be mailed back to the coach via express mail (24 hours) with a copy of the correspondence to the parents.

If you run a tournament that is 2 days or more in length, and that tournament has more than 64 teams registered in groups older than u10, it is highly recommended that your tournament have a MD, DO, or athletic trainer (certified in Cat 1, 2, and 3 concussion recognition) available to diagnose the player.