



TSSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 4, 2017
Official Minutes

1. Introduction, Role of the Committee, Review of Contact Information, Terms of Service
In attendance: Therese Sparn, Brad Rohling, Scott Byrd, Tripp Turner, Dr. Alex Diamond, Brad Jackson, Mark Reeves, Heather Carter, Terry Love (Tennessee Department of Health), Lori Paisley (Office of Coordinated School Health). Mark explained the role of the TSSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and the history of TSSAA working with Coordinated School Health and Tennessee Department of Health.

2. Committee Make-up
Discussion of Physician Assistant and/or Nurse Practitioner
The committee discussed the current committee make-up and the possibility of adding other committee members. The committee felt that it would be good to stay with the current makeup for now, but would like to continue to have presence from the Tennessee Department of Health and the Office of Coordinated School Health.

3. Approval of Minutes from the 2016 Meeting
A motion to approve the minutes from the 2016 meeting was made by Tripp Turner , and a second by Brad Rohling . The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Old Business
Mark explained that the TSSAA has condensed the CDC checklist and included it as an attachment to the current link for the Concussion Return to Play Form on the TSSAA website. The committee discussed a number of other options that schools can use to record symptoms in the event of an injury. The committee was informed of the new penalties and interpretations associated with the TSSAA Pitch Count Policy.

5. Date for Next Year
The committee agreed to meet on Wednesday, October 3, 2018

6. Collaborative Safety in Sports Meeting
The 3rd annual meeting in Kansas City last spring sponsored by the Korey Stringer Institute along with the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine and the National Athletic Trainers Association was discussed. The committee discussed the state rankings recently published by KSI. Robert Huggins from KSI has overseen a study analyzing the hiring methods and value of athletic trainers in the school saving. Research has shown that the presence of an athletic trainer

can save the school district money in insurance premiums. TSSAA would like to see how it could get this information out to decision-makers and increase the number of schools who have access to certified athletic trainers.

7. Review Current TSSAA Policies

- a. Heat Policy - The committee reviewed potential language modifications for the TSSAA heat policy and the potential to add a statement about recommending Heat Illness prevention course. The committee discussed the possibility of placing the language about cold water immersion tubs in the middle of the policy.
- b. Concussion Policy - The committee did not feel that the current policy should be modified to include other medical professionals who could sign the return to play form.
- c. Lightning Policy- The committee discussed additional language that should appear in the guidelines that adequately addresses situations where a facility has a policy that is different from the NFHS guidelines. The committee agreed that the more restrictive policy should always be used. The language should be adjusted to say “cannot return to field of play for 30 minutes instead of the contest starting back in 30 minutes.
- d. Football Practice Regulations- Mark will share the potential language change with the Football Coaches Association at their meeting in December.

8. Anyone Can Save a Life: Emergency Action Plans

Mark explained TSSAA plan to make this and other health and safety components a part of the TSSAA Portal / Membership information.

9. Pre-Participation Physicals (January 1st instead of April 15th)

The committee recommended that the date for pre-participation physicals remain on or after April 15th of the subsequent year. The committee discussed the potential for a copyright infringement if the signature for a Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant were added to the form. The committee discussed the emergence of a number of companies offering an electronic pre-participation physical. The committee did not feel that EKG testing should be a mandatory part of a pre-participation physical.

10. TN Department of Health/Return to Learn

The committee discussed the Return to Learn document. The individual school should decide who should be a part of the concussion management team. A concussion could fall under the umbrella of Section 504.

11. Wrestling Skin Check Procedures

Mark briefly discussed some revisions to the form used at the state tournament.

12. NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

The role of the NFHS committee in setting the tone for high school athletic associations and their sports medicine agendas was briefly discussed.

13. TSSAA Coaches Education Initiative

The committee discussed the need for school systems to set a aside time for this type of coaches training and the potential for the development of a webinar which would cover this material.

14. For the Good of the Order

Lori Paisley discussed new legislation regarding adrenal insufficiency and the potential impact on schools/coaches.