

The Premier League Risk Assessment, Emergency Plan & Concussion Protocol

Introduction and Plan Purpose

This Risk Assessment & Emergency Plan (RAEP) is developed for The Premier League Boys Youth Basketball Program. The purpose of this plan is to establish an approach to monitoring, evaluating, and managing risks that may occur during all basketball league activities. A risk is an uncertain event or condition that, if it occurs, has a negative effect on the project's objectives. The Premier League plan will have procedures and policies set in place to identify these risks, have layers of protection to control the risks, and management to monitor and control these risks from occurring to reduce the chance of liability and to align with school policies and safety procedures.

Description of the organization

The Premier League (PL) is a voluntary boy's 3rd thru 7th grade youth school development organization designed to promote, manage, and support youth basketball in the Northeast Georgia area. The mission and purpose of The Premier League of Northeast Georgia, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "The Premier League" or "PL") is to develop a highly competent youth basketball school team programs designed to develop the skills of the individual players and teams together. The Premier League exists to develop teams with players from the same school and area (Northeast Georgia), thus developing a program of feeder systems for those respective Middle/High Schools in Northeast Georgia. A major emphasis is to provide the opportunity for the youth to have fun and enjoy basketball while learning proper basketball skills and techniques in an atmosphere where good sportsmanship, ethics and competitiveness are stressed with their fellow schoolmates.

The Premier League will seek to promote pride in one's sense of accomplishment, the recognition of one's improvement areas while working hard to accomplish personal and team goals set by their individual coaches and their schools.

Facilities and League Games

All league games will be played on the local campuses of the schools or county recreation departments of NE Georgia. The Premier League will follow all school, county, and state procedures and policies related to those schools risk management & emergency plans instituted. Each school will have a representative from their school present to supervise and work with PL supervisors and personnel to insure all policies and safety requirements are met and enforced.

General Supervisory

Appropriate supervision is the most important step to reducing and eliminating risks or injuries inherent to athletics and The Premier League will have mandated supervision in the case of a Site Director at every facility as well as an assigned representative by that specific school and /or the Athletic Director of that school to be present at games.

Crowd Management

It is important that The Premier League provides a safe and secure environment for all coaches, players, and parents that patron any and all games. Crowd management addresses such issues as capacity of venue, geographic location, etc. to assist with foreseeable risks and assisting in emergencies. Disruptive or unruly fans will be asked by the PL Site Director or School Representative in charge or coach to comply with all school and sportsmanship policies. After this initial contact, if the fan(s) are unable to control their behavior, they will be asked to leave the facility. Ejected fans will not be allowed to attend future sporting events until he/she has met with the Premier League Director and any punishment has been satisfied. Any disruptions or crowd issues will be directly reported to the PL Director and if need be the specific school Athletic Director and/or the school administration.

Consent and Release/Injury

Every player, parent, and coach in the Premier League is required to complete and sign the Premier League ***Consent and Release/Code of Conduct Form***. This form hereby gives approval for the participation of all

children by their parents that they assume all risks and hazards related to such participation, including transportation to and from all activities. They waive, release, absolve, indemnify and agree to hold harmless any facility and The Premier League, affiliated associations, organizers, officers, coaches, parents, participants and officials from any claim arising out of injury to their child. They also hereby give permission for any game facility and/or The Premier League to obtain medical services for their child in case of a medical emergency or injury.

Emergency Care

Appropriate emergency care is vital to eliminating serious medical issues related to participation in basketball games. It is the supervisors obligation to protect all individuals from an unreasonable risk of harm and the responsibility to provide emergency care if injury takes place from unexpected circumstances. The Premier League Site Director and School representative will abide by appropriate response and procedures during all medical emergencies. All coaches are required by School policies, to be properly trained in basic first aid, CPR, AED, concussion, and sudden cardiac arrest protocol. Coaches are required to evaluate any student athlete injuries under their supervision. Given the assessment of the injury, coaches will take the appropriate steps to provide care for the injured student athlete. All coaches must attend a mandatory coaches meeting to review all emergency policies and course of actions when injuries occur.

Emergency Equipment

Emergency equipment includes gear such as First Aid Kits, AED, Spinal Boards, and Fire Extinguishers. In the case of personal protection equipment and facility equipment, it is vital to check them on a regular basis. The schools are responsible for all inspections of proper function of equipment per the State of Georgia requirements.

Access Control

Keeping access to limited areas secured is important in maintaining a risk free facility. It is the responsibility of the PL Site Directors and school representative to keep all control areas locked and secured. In the case of an emergency, having all control areas restricted and personnel in place reduces the chance of a controllable emergency turning into a crisis situation. All coaches and PL staff should perform final checks to ensure all doors are closed and facilities are locked when they leave.

Basketball Gym Inspection

Site inspection is critical to eliminating possible injuries and overall safety. All Site Directors conduct a Gym Inspections to identify potential hazards such as:

- Holes, depressions, protruding objects, surface conditions
- Trash/Debris
- Weather condition considerations
- Sharp, Protruding Objects
- Check for fire hazards: Electrical, housekeeping, etc.
- Exit hallways are free of obstructions/stored items
- Exit doors unlocked and accessible
- Exits signs working and visible
- Plumbing free of leaks and working
- Adjustments made based on age of participants

Concussion Protocol

The Premier League operates in accordance with The Georgia law ("Return to Play Act") is located at Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia under miscellaneous provisions of the "Quality Basic Education Act" at Section 20-2-324.1 known as the "Return to Play Act of 2013."

The Premier League requires immediately removing a child from play if a concussion is suspected, followed by a medical evaluation by a professional trained in concussion management. The child must receive written medical clearance before returning to the sport, and they should not return to play on the same day of the suspected injury. Parents should be informed of the possible concussion and monitor the child for symptoms, seeking emergency care if dangerous signs like severe headache, confusion, or seizures appear.

Immediate Steps to Take

Remove from Play: As soon as a concussion is suspected, the child must be removed from the game, practice, or activity.

Inform Parents/Guardians: Notify the child's parents or guardians about the possible concussion.

Seek Medical Evaluation: The child must be evaluated by a healthcare professional trained in concussion evaluation and management.

Returning to Play

Medical Clearance is Required: The child must receive a written clearance from a qualified medical professional.

Follow a Graduated Return-to-Play Plan: The athlete will need to slowly increase their physical activity over several days, moving through progressive levels of exercise.

Monitor for Symptoms: The athlete should stop the activity and return to the previous step if any concussion symptoms return or worsen.