

HFC Concussion Policy



First and foremost, Hadfield Football Club maintains the safety of its players as a priority.

The AFL has been recognised as a world leader in concussion management and research and as such, the KPFC is confident in aligning itself with the guidelines set out by the AFL at community level. These are as follows:

- Any player with suspected concussion must be withdrawn from playing or training immediately.
- All players suspected of concussion need urgent medical assessment.
- In days or weeks following concussion, the player should not be allowed to return to play or train until they have had formal medical clearance (NO EXCEPTIONS).
- The minimum requirement for injury support at each level is as follows:
 - o AusKick – First aid qualifications
 - o Junior and Senior – Accredited trainer qualification with at least one (1) trainer with AFL Emergency Response Coordinator training.
- If a player is unconscious and taken from the field on a stretcher they are unable to take ANY further part in the match.
- All coaches and injury support staff are to be given a copy of the AFL endorsed “Pocket Concussion Recognition Tool.”

No Exceptions

The above guidelines apply to ANY AND ALL players representing the Hadfield Football Club and as such, there are NO EXCEPTIONS. Regardless of age, level of competition, ability or time of season, if a player is diagnosed as having concussion, he/she shall not return to competition or training until medical clearance is given.

Further Information

Further information on the AFL’s approach to concussion can be found at <https://www.play.afl/clubhelp/policies/concussion-management/>

Policy Review

The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that the policy remains current and practical.

Escalation

Any breach should be reported immediately to the relevant Match Day Official and then if required to the Junior Coordinator Senior Football Operations Manager who may, if serious enough, escalate the matter further to the Football committee.

Penalties

Supporters will be provided a 1st warning by the Match Day Official. Subsequent warnings may result in expulsion from games or family player suspension.

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