



NOMADS UNITED AFC

CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURY POLICY

Concussion (and player welfare in general) is EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY. Coaches, players, parents, clubs and officials need to act in the best interest of player safety and welfare by taking responsibility for the RECOGNITION, REMOVAL and REFERRAL of all players with a suspected concussion or injury, to a medical doctor. They should then ensure that concussion is appropriately managed as per these guidelines.

This policy has been specifically prepared for New Zealand Football and football in New Zealand.

The purpose of this New Zealand Football (NZF) Concussion and Head Injury Policy is to provide guidance on the identification and management of concussion to ALL those involved in football and futsal in New Zealand and incorporates best practice guidelines.

Specifically the purpose of this policy is to:

1. Establish protocols for managing suspected concussive events in all Football and Futsal in New Zealand
2. Provide best practice guiding principles for managing suspected concussion in Football and Futsal in NZ – RECOGNISE, REMOVE, REFER, REST, RECOVER & RETURN
3. Provide guiding principles and general advice regarding the management of concussion in football and futsal competitions; and
4. Mandate the process by which a player may continue to play in a match or return to play, following involvement in an incident which requires assessment as to whether a suspected concussion has occurred

New Zealand Football has adopted the Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport: The 5th International Conference on Concussion in Sport, held in Berlin, November 2016. This statement was produced in conjunction with Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), and has also been adopted by FIFA.

With respect to the assessment of concussion, the advice contained within this Concussion Policy is of a general nature only. Individual treatment will depend on the facts and circumstances specific to each individual case. This Concussion Policy is not intended as a standard of care and should not be interpreted as such.