



Mt. Pleasant Figure Skating Club  
Concussion Awareness Information

Please read the following information carefully and sign below.

A form must be completed for **EVERY** MPFSC Skater.

**A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury that changes the way the brain normally works.** A concussion is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. Even a “ding,” “getting your bell rung,” or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious.

**WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF CONCUSSION?** Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days or weeks after the injury. If a student reports one or more symptoms of concussion listed (see reverse side) after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body, s/he should be kept out of play the day of the injury and until a health care professional, experienced in evaluating for concussion, says s/he is symptom-free and it's OK to return to play.

**Did You Know?**

- Most concussions occur without loss of consciousness.
- People who have, at any point in their lives, had a concussion have an increased risk for another concussion.
- Young children and teens are more likely to get a concussion and take longer to recover than adults.

Go to [www.mtpleasantskatingclub.com](http://www.mtpleasantskatingclub.com) for additional information.

By signing below, I am acknowledging that I have received Concussion Awareness Information from MPFSC.

Student Name (Please Print)

Parent or Guardian (Please Print)

Student Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Date

**CONCUSSION DANGER SIGNS** In rare cases, a dangerous blood clot may form on the brain in a person with a concussion and crowd the brain against the skull. A student should receive immediate medical attention if after a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body s/he exhibits any of the following danger signs: • One pupil larger than the other • Is drowsy or cannot be awakened • A headache that not only does not diminish, but gets worse • Weakness, numbness, or decreased coordination • Repeated vomiting or nausea • Slurred speech • Convulsions or seizures • Cannot recognize people or places • Becomes increasingly confused, restless, or agitated • Has unusual behavior • Loses consciousness (even a brief loss of consciousness should be taken seriously)

**WHY SHOULD A STUDENT REPORT THEIR SYMPTOMS?** If a student has a concussion, his/her brain needs time to heal. While a student's brain is still healing, s/he is much more likely to have another concussion. Repeat concussions can increase the time it takes to recover. In rare cases, repeat concussions in young students can result in brain swelling or permanent damage to their brain. They can even be fatal.

**WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU THINK YOUR STUDENT HAS A CONCUSSION?** If you suspect that a student has a concussion, remove the student from play and seek medical attention. Do not try to judge the severity of the injury yourself. Keep the student out of play the day of the injury and until a health care professional, experienced in evaluating for concussion, says s/he is symptom-free and it's OK to return to play. Rest is key to helping a student recover from a concussion. Exercising or activities that involve a lot of concentration, such as studying, working on the computer, or playing video games, may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. After a concussion, returning to sports and school is a gradual process that should be carefully managed and monitored by a health care professional. Remember concussions affect people differently. While most students with a concussion recover quickly and fully, some will have symptoms that last for days, or even weeks. A more serious concussion can last for months or longer.

**SIGNS OBSERVED BY STAFF** Appears dazed or stunned Is confused about assignment or position Forgets an instruction Is unsure of game, score, or opponent Moves clumsily Answers questions slowly Loses consciousness (even briefly) Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes Can't recall events prior to hit or fall Confusion Can't recall events after hit or fall

**SYMPTOMS REPORTED BY STUDENTS** Headache or "pressure" in head Nausea or vomiting Balance problems or dizziness Double or blurry vision Sensitivity to light Sensitivity to noise Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy Concentration or memory problems Just not "feeling right" or "feeling down"