

VPA SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 23, 2014
Orthopaedic Specialty Clinic, South Burlington, VT

Members Present; Pat Merriam, Matt Gammons, Mahlon Bradley, David Lisle, Todd Powers, Denise Alosa, Sarah Johnstone, Bob Johnson, Joanna Graves

Minutes:

- motion by Sarah, second by Pat, to approve minutes of 1/16/14. Vote – approved unanimously.
- correspondence – Bob gave a brief update on the required concussion legislation for collision sports. It goes into effect July 1, 2015. Schools are doing the best to budget for this, but there are issues.
- discussion on current heat/cold recommendations. Is this something we should recommend to ASC as a policy? How do we educate officials if we do this. We currently regulate lightening issue (with NFHS policy). Acclimation is not the issue. The issue is the one day of high heat/humidity. Our student athletes are not use to this.

Motion by Sarah, second by David, to recommend to the VPA Activity Standards Committee that the current heat/cold recommendations be made a requirement and not a recommendation. Vote – approved unanimously. Sarah will present to ASC. Bob will give VSADA a “heads up” at their next meeting in November.

- Discussion on KSI football recommendations. Consensus that KSI recommendations on football practices and procedures are to be forwarded to the VT Interscholastic Football League for their consideration. Sports Medicine Committee is willing to talk with VIFL about implementation of KSI Heat Acclimation Policy and why it should be implemented.
- Discussion on whether CPR/AED training should be made a requirement of all coaches as a part of the VPA Coaches Education program. State law actually requires that schools make their high school students aware of this information through their curriculum. This may actually be more important that the First Aid requirement. Cost can be reduced by using Emergency Care and Safety Institute Program or American Heart Association program.

Motion by Sarah, second by Denise, that CPR/AED training be added to the mandatory VPA Coaches Education program effective September 2016. Vote – approved unanimously. Referred to Activity Standards Committee for consideration.

- Matt discussed plans for developing a Sports Medicine Handbook for school Administrators. He has had several administrators talk with him about this. No further action needed.
- the NFHS will be providing the “Anyone Can Save A Life Program” to all states and the states will be able to provide it to all schools at no costs. This is a program developed in Minnesota and provides basic information on developing preventive programs. No further action needed.
- reviewed NFHS Guidelines for Minimizing Head Impact. Discussion. Information referred to VIFL for consideration. No further action.
- review/discussion on National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Report. South Burlington HS is a part of this program and provides information on sports injuries at SB. This is an annual report conducted by Dr. Dawn Comstock. No further action.
- brief discussion on NBC report linking increased cancer rates to rubber pieces used on turf fields. Report sensationalizes an issue that there is very little research on. The connection to increased cancer rates is tenuous at best. No further action taken
- adjourned.