
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society Teams Up with the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania to Offer Concussion Management Courses Across the State

For the second time this school year, PATS and BIAPA are teaming up to bring concussion training to each of the 12 PIAA districts. The courses meet the Safety in Youth Sports Act requirements for concussion education for coaches and are being offered as an alternative to the approved online programs offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of State High School Associations and the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society.



John Moyer, Head Athletic Trainer at Wilson High School performs evaluation of a concussed athlete.

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In the state of Pennsylvania, coaches in both public and non-public schools are required to annually take a course in concussion management to fulfill the requirements of the Safety in Youth Sports Act of 2012. The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS) is once again teaming up with experts from the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania (BIAPA) to offer face-to-face training. These training sessions have been approved by the Department of Health as meeting the requirements of the law. To find a location near you listed by PIAA district [click here](#).

These February workshops are targeted to reach spring coaches, youth coaches, sports officials, athletes, parents, school nurses, school counselors, athletic directors, upper administrators, including school board members, and anyone who wants to learn more about concussions. According to John Moyer, Head Athletic Trainer at Wilson High School in Reading "Compared to the available online concussion education trainings, the live program offers attendees the chance to ask questions and have them answered immediately on site. The live workshops will also provide numerous educational handouts to be used as resources for creating an acceptable concussion management program." These same workshops were offered in August of 2012 for the fall and winter coaches attracted 880 individuals across the Commonwealth.

In addition to these in person workshops, PATS provides an online version of this training free of charge to parents, coaches, and athletes who are unable to attend the face-to-face meetings. This training assists individuals in keeping abreast of the latest in recognizing and managing concussions. More than 2,000 coaches have completed the online Concussionwise Program; this program can be accessed at <http://concussionwise.com/pennsylvania>.



Yvette Ingram, PhD, LAT, ATC
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society, Inc.
President

610-496-4192
president@gopats.org

Since the law was signed by Governor Corbett, the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society has worked hand in hand with the Brain Injury Association to ensure that the care of middle and high school athletes who suffer a concussion is second to none in the nation. "This collaboration solidified the role of the Licensed Athletic Trainer as an approved health care provider in Pennsylvania as well as being an integral part of any concussion management program at any level," added Moyer.

For more information regarding this topic or to schedule an interview with PATS President Yvette Ingram, PhD, LAT, ATC, please email president@gopats.org.

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society, Inc. is a progressive organization of licensed health care professionals who work under the direction of a licensed physician. Our society continues to increase public awareness and education regarding Athletic Trainers and the Athletic Training profession while serving as the premier source of information for public safety, injury and illness prevention, early intervention, patient care, and healthcare delivery for the physically active in the Commonwealth.

"The Keystone to a Healthy and Physically Active Life"

Contact

Yvette Ingram PhD, LAT, ATC
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society
610-496-4192
yingram@lhup.edu

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