



Dear 'Iolani School Coaches,

Recent statistics reported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the State of Hawaii - Department of Education Athletic Health Care Trainers noted a significant increase in the number of reported concussions and emergency visits by persons nineteen years old or younger. With the growing concern for the safety of our students in the State, on July 3rd, 2012, Governor Neil Abercrombie signed into law ACT 197 (12) RELATING TO CONCUSSIONS, requiring the Department of Education (DOE) and the Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) to develop a concussion educational program for *students and student athletes* who are fourteen to eighteen years old.

To conform to ACT 197 (12), an amendment has been made to 'Iolani School's current Concussion Awareness Education Program (CAEP) to educate students, parents, coaches, faculty, staff, and administrators at both the Upper and Lower Schools. Each coach will be required to complete the following as part of 'Iolani School's CAEP:

- View information from the following websites to educate yourself about concussions. The website will discuss the dangers of a concussion, identify signs and symptoms of a concussion, and what to do if someone demonstrates any of those signs and/or symptoms:
<http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/>
<http://brain101.orcasinc.com/4000/>
- View the attached 'Iolani School Athletic Concussion Management Program to educate yourself on the Return to Activity Plan (RAP) and criteria for return to full athletic competition:

We want to reemphasize the importance of communicating with a certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) when your *student / student athlete* has suffered a head injury, especially when there is no coverage at your practice or game. As a reminder, any *student / student athlete* that has suffered a head injury must be removed from the practice or game, and both parent(s) or guardian(s) and the schools' ATC must be notified of the head injury. The ATC will inform the Director of Health Services, School Counselors and Teachers that the *student / student athlete* sustained a head injury in the event that the *student / student athlete* attend school the following day. This is to protect the student from returning to school or athletic activities without being evaluated.

Please share this concussion information to anyone involved with a student's extracurricular activities outside of 'Iolani School, as well as with family members and friends. The more people we can educate about the dangers and signs and symptoms of a concussion, the more beneficial it will be in ensuring the safety of our children to return to school and sports related activities.

Additional links to learn more about concussion and other Concussion Awareness Education programs can be found below:

Website for Teachers/Staff

<http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/schools.html>

<http://brain101.orcasinc.com/2000/>

Fact Sheet for Teachers/Staff

http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/pdf/TBI_factsheet_TEACHERS-508-a.pdf

For athletes/parents

http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/high_school.html

<http://brain101.orcasinc.com/3000/> (parents)

<http://brain101.orcasinc.com/5000/> (athletes)