



Austin Independent School District

Interscholastic Athletics
3200 Jones Road Austin, TX 78745
(512) 414-1050 Fax (512) 414-0469



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Austin ISD is currently implementing an innovative program for our student-athletes. This program will assist our team physicians/athletic trainers in evaluating and treating head injuries (e.g., concussion). In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student-athletes, we have acquired a software tool called ImPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). ImPACT is a computerized exam utilized in many professional, collegiate, and high school sports programs across the country to successfully diagnose and manage concussions. If an athlete is believed to have suffered a head injury during competition, ImPACT is used to help determine the severity of head injury and when the injury has fully healed.

The computerized exam is given to athletes before beginning contact sport practice or competition. This non-invasive test is set up in “video-game” type format and takes about 20 minutes to complete. It is simple, and actually many athletes enjoy the challenge of taking the test. Essentially, the ImPACT test is a preseason physical of the brain. It tracks information such as memory, reaction time, speed, and concentration. It, however, is not an IQ test.

If a concussion is suspected, the athlete will be required to re-take the test. Both the preseason and post-injury test data is given to a local doctor to help evaluate the injury. The information gathered can also be shared with your family doctor. The test data will enable these health professionals to determine when return-to-play is appropriate and safe for the injured athlete. If an injury of this nature occurs to your child, you will be promptly contacted with all the details.

The vendor stresses to us that the ImPACT testing procedures are non-invasive, and they pose no risks to your student-athlete. We are excited to implement this program given that it provides us the best available information for managing concussions and preventing potential brain damage that can occur with multiple concussions. The Austin ISD administration, coaching, and athletic training staffs are striving to keep your child’s health and safety at the forefront of the student athletic experience. Even though we highly recommend this testing, it is not required in order for participation in athletics. Please return the form below with the appropriate signatures as soon as possible. If you have any further questions regarding this program please feel free to contact me at 414-1042.

Sincerely,

Denise Vanlandingham
Area Athletic Coordinator, Athletic Trainer
Austin ISD Athletics

(please cut here and return to school athletic trainer)

- I have read and understand the above information and give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the ImPACT Concussion Program.**
- I have read and understand the above information and DO NOT give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the ImPACT Concussion Program.**

Printed Name of Athlete _____

Signature of Athlete _____

Date _____

Signature of Parent _____

Date _____