

Rowans Law Summary for Sport Organizations

Who is Rowan?

Rowan Stringer was a 17-year-old high school student when she died two years ago, on Mother's Day, after suffering what proved to be a fatal concussion during a high school rugby game in Ottawa. It was her second concussion within a week.

What is Rowan's Law?

An act governing the management of youth concussions in all sports in Ontario. Although the exact regulations and protocols are still being determined, it's a good time to reflect on your sports organizations current concussions protocols and see if your sports organization is prepared to put the following law into practice once the regulations are finalized in the next few years.

- Did you know ALL 50 states have laws that dictate protocols for youth concussions? Ontario is the first province in Canada to mandate a protocol in relation to concussion, Rowan's Law.

What does my sports organization need to do to comply with the new law?

- Have written documentation that EVERY player, coach and affiliated sport organization member has read and understood the concussion awareness resources approved by the Minter of Tourism, Culture and Sport EACH season they register.
 - If the individual is under the age of 18, a parent must also have written documentation that they have read and understood the concussion awareness resources approved by the Minter of Tourism, Culture and Sport.
- Create a concussion code of conduct and ensure every player, coach and affiliated sport organization member has read and understood the concussion protocol.
 - If the individual is under the age of 18, a parent must also have written documentation that they have read and understood the concussion protocol.
- Establish a removal-from-sport protocol for athletes that are suspected of having sustained a concussion.
 - Must establish a specific process that results in IMMEDIATE removal of suspected concussed athlete
 - Must designate a member of the sports organization who is responsible for ensuring the athlete is removed and that they do NOT return to training, practicing, or competition until they meet the return-to-sport guidelines.
- Establish a return-to-sport protocol that applies to athletes that have sustained or have thought to have sustained a concussion.
 - Must establish a specific process to implement the return of an athlete to training, practice or competition
 - Must designate a member of the sports organization who is responsible for ensuring that an athlete does not return until permitted to do so in accordance with the protocol.

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For more information about Rowan's Law:

Sport Ontario: 416-327-7451

<http://www.ontariocanada.com/registry/view.do?postingId=27186&language=en>

To learn more about concussions

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ewrf_N7n-8I

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvjK-4NXRsM>

<https://www.coach.ca/concussion-awareness-s16361>

<https://www.injuryresearch.bc.ca/education/concussion-awareness-training-tool/>

http://www.coachesontario.ca/wp-content/uploads/concussion_card_e.pdf

<https://kpe.utoronto.ca/sport-medicine/concussion-clinic/concussion-information-faqs>

For concussion protocol templates to use until Rowan's Law Regulations are determined:

<http://www.parachutecanada.org/injury-topics/item/canadian-guideline-on-concussion-in-sport>