

2013 Nebraska Sports Concussion Athletic Director Survey -- Highlights

Athletic Directors at Nebraska high schools were surveyed on a broad array of issues surrounding concussions in April 2013. A total of 164 athletic directors participated in the survey. Following are the highlights of the results.

I. By and large, schools are following the mandates of Nebraska's Concussion Awareness Act (LB260), though there are some areas for improvement, especially in the area of removal from play.

- **94%** of surveyed athletic directors/activities coordinators reported that their school has made concussion training available to coaches at their school. Among those whose school has made concussion training available, **77%** reported that their school makes it mandatory.
- **90%** reported that their school provides education to parents and students about the signs and symptoms of concussions before the start of practice.
- **76%** reported that coaches or athletic trainers always remove an athlete with a suspected concussion from play.
- **96%** reported that an athlete's parents or guardians are always notified after a suspected concussion.
- **95%** reported that their school requires an athlete with a suspected concussion to be cleared by a health care professional before returning to play.
- **69%** reported that their school always requires the parents of an athlete with a suspected concussion to provide written approval before their child returns to play.

II. Some schools are engaging in return-to-learn activities for athletes returning to the classroom after a concussion, though it is generally not a part of school policy.

- **34%** of surveyed athletic directors/activities coordinators reported that their school has a designated person for concussion management to assist student athletes when they return to school after a concussion.
- **60%** reported that their school notifies teachers when an athlete with a suspected concussion returns to the classroom.
- **34%** reported that their school has provided education to teachers about the signs and symptoms of concussions and return-to-learn accommodations/management of concussions.
- **6%** reported that their school has a written return-to-learn policy that provides accommodation for the classroom work of a student athlete with a suspected concussion.

