

Santa Ynez Valley Union High School

Information and protocol for parents of athletes who are injured during a practice or game.

1. If an athlete is injured during a game, parents should wait in the stands until called down by authorities. An Athletic Trainer (ATC) will assess and provide initial treatment on the field. If necessary, the parent will be asked to meet at the green fence by the bleachers. The ATC or Team Doctor will then communicate the injury status, provide updates, discuss medical interventions, and address parent concerns.
2. If an athlete is injured during a practice or game without a parent present, the following steps are typically taken:
 - a. Contact Parent/Emergency Contact: The designated parent or emergency contact is immediately notified about the injury, and treatment options are discussed.
 - b. Assess Urgency: The severity of the injury is evaluated to determine if emergency care is required. If necessary, an ambulance is called, and the parents are informed about where to meet it.
 - c. Contact Parent for Non-Emergency: If the injury is not an emergency, the ATC will try to reach the parent to arrange for pickup. If the parent cannot be reached or pickup is not possible, an ambulance may be called.
 - d. Professional Judgment: If the parent or emergency contact cannot be reached in either situation, the ATC will decide on the best plan of care based on the urgency of the situation. An ambulance will only be used if necessary.
3. If an athlete is suspected of a concussion/head injury:
 - a. ATC evaluates and communicates with parent/emergency contact.
 - b. Athletes must be evaluated and cleared or diagnosed by a doctor before returning to practice/games.
 - c. The parent shares the doctor's note with the school nurse and ATC for teacher notification.
 - d. After a formal diagnosis of concussion, the athlete completes a Return-to-Learn (RTL) and Return-to-Play (RTP) protocol with ATC and coach before resuming any practices/competition.

Thank you for your support and understanding.
Go Pirates!

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