

# CARLISLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

ADOPTED: October 21, 2021

REVISED:

## 123.2 SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

### Authority

The Board recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of students participating in the district's athletic programs. This policy has been developed to provide guidance for prevention and recognition of sudden cardiac arrest in student athletes. [\[1\]](#)

### Definition

**Athletic activity** shall mean all of the following: [\[1\]](#)

1. Interscholastic athletics. [\[2\]](#)
2. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the **district**, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations. [\[3\]](#)
3. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the **district**. [\[3\]](#)
4. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities, **as defined above**. [\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

### Delegation of Responsibility

Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and **their** parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet **that includes information about electrocardiogram testing**. [\[1\]](#)

### Guidelines

The school shall hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for all competitors regarding the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest **and information about electrocardiogram testing**. In addition to the student athletes, such meetings may include

parents/guardians, coaches, other appropriate school officials, physicians, **cardiologists**, and athletic trainers. [\[1\]](#)

#### Removal From Play

A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student's team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, or other official designated by the district, exhibits signs or symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time. [\[1\]](#)

Any student known to have exhibited signs or symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest prior to or following an athletic activity may be removed from participation. [\[1\]](#)

#### Return to Play

The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by a licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or cardiologist. [\[1\]](#)

#### Training

All coaches shall annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity, complete the sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a provider approved by the PA Department of Health. [\[1\]](#)

#### **Legal References:**

1. 24 P.S. 1425
2. Pol. 123
3. Pol. 122
- Pol. 822