

CA Swimming Concussion Training Requirement for Coaches & Meet Referees

Every coach coming to CA to coach USA Athletes will need to show they have completed the required online concussion Training courses and will need to show proof of that completion at check in with the Clerk of Course. Credentials will not be given to coaches who cannot provide proof of completion. USA Swimming Meet Referees will also have to complete the Concussion Training and demonstrate completion to be the Meet Referee for meets in CA.

California has modified existing school concussion law to apply the concussion requirements to youth sports organizations in which athletes participate, including swimming.

1. The law requires that a youth athletic program must immediately remove an athlete from an athletic activity for the remainder of the day, if the athlete is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury, and prohibit the athlete from returning to the activity until the athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care provider, trained in the management of concussions, and acting within the scope of his or her practice. The athlete must receive written clearance from the licensed health care provider to return to the athletic activity. If the athlete is diagnosed with a concussion, they must go through a graduated return to play protocol of no less than seven days under the supervision of a licensed health care provider. Youth sports organizations must also notify the parents or guardians of athletes 17 or younger who have been removed from athletic activities due to suspected concussions.
1. Coaches and administrators must successfully complete the concussion and head injury education required under the bill at least once either online or in person. The following courses from CDC or NGHS satisfy the requirements. Coaches and administrators must keep evidence of passing these courses to provide to your LSC.

[CDC Concussion Course](#)

[NFHS Concussion Course](#)

1. Youth sports organizations must also give a concussion and head injury information sheet to each athlete. The information sheet shall be signed and returned by the athlete and, if the athlete is 17 years of age or younger, shall also be signed by the athlete's parent or guardian, before the athlete initiates practice or competition. The information sheet may be sent and returned through an electronic medium including, but not necessarily limited to, fax or electronic mail.

[Concussion Information Sheet for Parents and Swimmers](#)

1. USA Swimming has also developed concussion and head injury education materials for coaches and administrators. Attached is a concussion at the pool checklist for coaches, officials, and parents.

[Concussion at the pool Checklist](#)

These requirements will also apply to out of state coaches whose swimmers are attending any meets in California.

Feel free to forward this document to your teams and coaches in California.

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Report Accidents: www.usaswimming.org/reportofoccurrence

www.usaswimming.org/riskmanagement/insurance