

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Verona High School is currently implementing a new program for our student-athletes. This program will assist our school physician/athletic trainer/school nurse in evaluating and treating head injuries (e.g., concussion). In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student-athletes, we have acquired a software tool called ImPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). ImPACT is a computerized exam used to successfully diagnose and manage concussions. If an athlete is believed to have suffered a head injury during competition, ImPACT is used to help determine the severity of the head injury and when the injury is fully healed.

Founded by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's Sports Concussion Program, this software system is utilized throughout professional sports and has been mandated by the NHL. Used by most NFL teams, US Soccer, countless colleges and high schools across the country, it is quickly becoming the "Gold Standard" in recognizing and managing head injuries. Additional information can be found at [www.impacttest.com](http://www.impacttest.com).

This non-invasive test is set up in a "video-game" type format and takes about 25-35 minutes to complete. Essentially, the ImPACT test is a preseason physical of the brain. It tracks information such as memory, reaction time, speed and concentration. It is not an IQ test and this test will not be placed in a student's academic file; only on their medical file. This baseline test will be given once every two years and retests will take place when a head injury is suspected. All tests will be taken at Verona High School under school supervision.

If a concussion is suspected, the athlete will be required to re-take the test. Both the preseason and post-injury test data is given to our school medical personnel to help evaluate the injury. The information gathered can also be shared with your family doctor. The test data will enable these health professionals to determine when return-to-play is appropriate and safe for the injured athlete. If an injury of this nature occurs to your child, you will be promptly contacted with all details.

We are excited to implement this program given that it provides us the best available information for managing concussions and preventing potential brain damage that can occur with multiple concussions. Verona High School is striving to keep your child's health and safety at the forefront of the student athletic experience. **Your child will NOT participate if you sign and return the attached form, otherwise he/she will be tested.** All parents electing to decline participation should have signed form returned to the coach 1 week prior to the beginning of practices. If you have any further questions regarding the ImPACT program please feel free to contact me or our athletic trainer, Mr. Jason Calo at 973-571-6750 ext.1035.

Sincerely,

Robert Merkler  
Director of Athletics  
Verona High School

# **Decline Participation in the ImPACT Program**

For use of the Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Test (ImPACT)

I have read the attached information and do **NOT** give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the ImPACT Concussion Management Program.

Printed Name of Student-Athlete: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Sport(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student-Athlete:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***\*\*Please return this permission slip to your head coach 1 week prior to the beginning of practice.***