

Medical Ineligibility Policy

An athlete that is found by a World Police and Fire Games (WPFG) Medical Team Member to be physically and/or mentally unfit to compete can be declared medically ineligible.

Medical conditions that may prevent an athlete from engaging safely in a particular event include but are not limited to:

1. Cardiovascular emergencies (Myocardial Infarction, Cardiac Arrest)
2. Neurological Emergencies (Stroke, Concussion)
3. Pulmonary Emergencies
4. Other conditions that significantly impact athlete's ability to safely compete in a given sport.

In the event of any of these emergencies, an athlete will be evaluated by a designated WPFG Medical Team personnel. Pending the results, the athlete will either be released to participate in the event or will be declared medically ineligible.

Once declared ineligible, the athlete's name, credential number and all registered events will be communicated from the MVM up the chain of command to the GOC. A notice will go out to all designated parties informing them that the athlete is ineligible to compete and will not be able to return until they have been cleared through the Medical Clearance Process.

Medical Ineligibility due to Concussion

Concussion is any trauma- induced alteration in mental status that may or may not include a loss of consciousness.

If at any time during an event an athlete suffers a head injury, he/she shall be required to see a designated WPFG Medical Team Member for an evaluation. There are many indications of a head injury which include but are not limited to:

- An athlete stating that they have a head injury or showing signs and symptoms of a potential head injury to include:
 - Headache
 - Nausea
 - Balance problems or dizziness
 - Double or blurry vision
 - Light sensitivity, photophobia
 - Feeling sluggish or slowed down
 - Concentration and memory problems
 - Feeling fatigued
 - Change in sleep pattern (appears late)
- A teammate or coach stating that they believe a player has a head injury;
 - Appears dazed or stunned

- Confused about assignment, forgets plays
- Unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loss of consciousness
- Behavior or personality change
- Retrograde amnesia (prior to the play)
- Antegrade Amnesia (after the play)
- A medical team member who believes an athlete may have a head injury

Assessment Process

The injured athlete will be assessed on-site by a designated WPFG Medical Team member. The following Medical Team members are permitted to assess head injuries:

- Certified Athletic Trainers
- BLS and/or ALS Personnel
- Physicians

When on site, certified athletic trainers will always be the primary assessor of head injuries. If an athletic trainer is on site, they will administer a SCAT 3 test to the athlete. The SCAT 3 test is a sideline test used to determine if an athlete has suffered from a concussion. If an athlete's SCAT 3 test score suggests they have a concussion, they shall be declared medically ineligible. The athlete will not be permitted to return to competition until they are reassessed and cleared by the Reston Athlete Care Clinic medical staff.

Once declared ineligible, the athlete's name, credential number and all registered events will be communicated from the MVM up the chain of command to the GOC. A notice will go out to all designated parties informing them that the athlete is ineligible to compete and will not be able to return until they have been cleared through the Medical Clearance Process.

Medical Clearance Process

Medical

Any athlete that has suffered from a major medical emergency shall be assessed by a designated WPFG Medical Team Physician. The physician will assess the athlete's physical state, consider the specific medical event that occurred and the athlete's medical history. If the doctor advises against participation, the athlete will remain ineligible. Otherwise, the athlete shall be reinstated immediately. The outcome of the clearance process will be immediately communicated to the Medical Venue Manager and up the chain of command to the GOC.

Concussions

All athletes suspected of or diagnosed with a concussion shall be assessed by the Fairfax 2015 Concussion Team located in the Reston Athlete Care Clinic (RACC). The team is made up of a Neurologist as well as support staff who use a clinically based assessment process to test for concussions. If the Concussion Team advises against participation, the athlete will remain ineligible. Otherwise, the athlete shall be reinstated immediately. The outcome of the clearance process will be immediately communicated to the Medical Venue Manager and up the chain of command to the GOC.