



Injured Athlete Removal from Competition Due to Injury

The general health and well-being of each athlete is the priority. The long-term ability of each athlete to compete in their chosen sport takes precedence over their ability to compete at the current BC Games.

Policy and Process

Indications to remove an athlete from competition may include, but are not restricted to:

- Transient mental status impairment
- Visual impairment
- Contagious skin conditions
- Cardiopulmonary instability
- Concussion
- Suspected spinal injury
- Musculoskeletal injuries where there is significant risk of further injury to the athlete
- Suspected fractures
- Suspected visceral injury
- Any medical condition that requires transport to the local emergency room

Venue Medical Volunteers will assess the athlete injuries onsite. If the initial assessment indicates a possible removal from competition, the Venue Medical Volunteer with the highest level of certification will request a consult from the Medical Clinic Physician/Nurse Practitioner; or will be referred to the hospital emergency department to complete a full medical assessment. A full medical assessment will be completed and a decision on whether to remove the athlete from competition will be confirmed.

Decision to remove athlete from competition:

The Medical Clinic Physician/Nurse Practitioner will complete page 2 of the Games Injury Report, outlining specific details of the injury, a full explanation for the removal from competition, and the eligibility to return to competition during the Games (if applicable). The Games Injury Report will be provided to the athlete, the athlete's coach(es), and the Provincial Advisor for the sport. The Coach or the Provincial Advisor will notify the athlete's parent(s)/guardian(s) of the decision and will provide a copy of the Games Injury Report if requested.

The Medical Clinic Physician/Nurse Practitioner will notify the Director of Medical Services who will notify BC Games Society staff.

If the parent/guardian(s) are at the Games or in close proximity, they will have the option to take their child home early upon completion of the BC Games Release Form.

The athlete's parent/guardian(s) or in their absences, the athlete's coach, have the option to seek a second assessment outside of the Games Medical Clinic, at their own cost and arrangement. The second assessment must be an in-person assessment and must be completed by a medical physician licensed in the province of British Columbia (local hospital emergency room or walk in medical clinic, personal family physician). The Games Injury Report must be reviewed and completed by the physician. The BC Games and the host society are not responsible for any costs incurred to seek the second assessment or to have the Games Injury Report completed appropriately.

If there is a discrepancy between the initial assessment and the secondary assessment, the BC Games Society will convene a medical jury to make the final decision on the removal of the athlete from competition due to injury.



Injured Athlete Removal from Competition Due to Injury

Athlete removal from competition due to sport venue imperfections (heat, cold, etc.)

If an athlete is removed from competition as a result sport venue imperfections, the Sport Chair must be informed immediately and sport-specific Protocols must be implemented to correct or counteract the imperfection.

Serious Injury Communication Flow

Athlete is injured
On-site Medical Volunteer notifies the athlete and the athlete’s coach that an assessment through the Medical Clinic is required. The Medical Clinic Physician/Nurse Practitioner is contacted to request an assessment.
The Medical Clinic Physician/Nurse Practitioner determines if the athlete is removed from competition and completes page 2 of the Games Injury Report. The athlete, athlete’s coach(es), and the Provincial Advisor are notified.
The Medical Clinic Physician/Nurse Practitioner notifies the Director of Medical Services immediately.
The Director of Medical Services notifies BC Games staff immediately.
Coach or Provincial Advisor informs parent/guardian.
If sport venue imperfections resulted in the injury to occur, the Director of Medical Services will contact the Sport Chair immediately.

Injured Athlete Return to Competition Protocol

If the Games Injury Report includes information about eligibility for return to competition during the Games, if applicable. The Medical Clinic Physician/Nurse Practitioner will complete the necessary re-assessments and will make the determination if the athlete is permitted to return to competition.

If a re-assessment is made and it is determined that the risk of further injury or adverse health impact still exists and cannot be safely managed during competition, the athlete will not be permitted to return to competition.

The athlete’s parent/guardian(s) or in their absences, the athlete’s coach, have the option to seek a second assessment outside of the Games Medical Clinic, at their own cost and arrangement. The second assessment must be an in-person assessment and must be completed by a medical physician licensed in the province of British Columbia (local hospital emergency room or walk in medical clinic, personal family physician). The Games Injury Report must be reviewed and completed by the physician. The BC Games and the host society are not responsible for any costs incurred to seek the second assessment or to have the Games Injury Report completed appropriately.

If there is a discrepancy between the re-assessment and the secondary re-assessment, the BC Games Society will convene a medical jury to make the final decision on the athlete’s ability to return to competition.