

# **SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST**

## **Parent & Student Information Sheet**

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) takes the lives of thousands of students every year. It is the number one cause of death in student athletes. SCA is where the heart stops beating suddenly. An individual will stop breathing and collapse, lying motionless or appearing to have a seizure.

Causes of SCA include:

- Structural heart defects (hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Marfan syndrome etc.)
- Electrical Heart Defects (long QT syndrome, Wolff-Parkinson White Syndrome, etc.)
- Blow to the chest (Comotio Cordis)

Risk Factors for SCA include:

- Fainting or seizures during or immediately following exercise
- Chests pains during exercise
- Unexplained shortness of breath, long time to catch breath
- Dizziness
- Unusually rapid heart rate
- Extreme fatigue, always tired and lack of energy
- Unexplained sudden death of a direct family member under the age of 50

If you have any of the risk factors consult your healthcare provider

To increase the chances of surviving SCA there should be:

1. An Emergency Action Plan in place for every practice and event
2. Someone immediately calling 911
3. An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) immediately accessible
4. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) hands only started immediately

I have reviewed and understand the symptoms and warning signs of SCA

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Student Name Printed

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Signature

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Date

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Parent Name Printed

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Signature

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Date