

Rowan's Law (Concussion Safety)

Thorold Soccer Club is committed to providing a safe environment for all participants. In accordance with **Rowan's Law (Concussion Safety), 2018**, all players, parents/guardians, coaches, officials, and volunteers must review concussion awareness resources and acknowledge their understanding **before participating in any club activities**.

What is Rowan's Law?

Rowan's Law is Ontario legislation that aims to increase concussion awareness and improve concussion safety in sport. It is named after Rowan Stringer, a young athlete who tragically lost her life after suffering multiple concussions.

The law requires that sport organizations:

- Ensure concussion awareness resources are reviewed annually
 - Have concussion codes of conduct
 - Enforce removal-from-sport and return-to-sport protocols
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Who Must Review Concussion Awareness Resources?

The following individuals must review the concussion awareness resources **every year**:

- All registered players
- Parents or guardians of players under 18 years of age
- Coaches, assistant coaches, and team officials
- Match officials and volunteers (where applicable)

Acknowledgement of this review is required during registration.

Concussion Awareness Resources (Required Review)

All participants and parents/guardians must review the official concussion awareness resources provided by the **Government of Ontario**:

- What is a concussion
- Signs and symptoms of a concussion
- What to do if a concussion is suspected
- Recovery and return-to-sport expectations

Official Ontario Government Resources:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/rowans-law-concussion-awareness-resources>

Thorold Soccer Club – Concussion Safety Protocols

Removal-from-Sport

Any player who is suspected of having sustained a concussion:

- Will be **immediately removed from play or training**
- Will **not be permitted to return** to activity on the same day

This applies to games, practices, training sessions, and all club-sanctioned activities.

Return-to-Sport

A player may only return to soccer activities when:

- They have completed the required recovery process
- They have followed the **Return-to-Sport protocol** as outlined by Rowan's Law
- They have received appropriate medical clearance, where required

Thorold Soccer Club follows [Ontario Soccer's concussion management guidelines](#).

Responsibility to Report

All players, parents/guardians, coaches, and officials share a responsibility to:

- Be aware of concussion signs and symptoms
- **Report any suspected concussion** to Thorold Soccer Club officials immediately

Safety always comes before competition.

Registration Acknowledgement

As part of registration with Thorold Soccer Club:

- Participants (or parents/guardians for minors) must acknowledge that they have reviewed the concussion awareness resources
 - This acknowledgement is captured and stored through the registration system
 - Registration cannot be completed without this acknowledgement
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Thorold Soccer Club is committed to player safety and to complying with all Ontario Soccer and Government of Ontario requirements.