



VILLA MARIA ACADEMY LOWER SCHOOL

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Preparing young girls for roles in Leadership and Service in the IHM Tradition

Dear Parents,

On July 1, 2012, the Safety in Youth Sports Act (Pennsylvania Senate Bill No. 200) took effect, creating a new set of standards and procedures for managing concussions and traumatic brain injuries to all student athletes. In order to manage more effectively any head injuries sustained by our student-athletes, and support the “removal from play” and “return to play” standards outlined in the law, we have acquired a software tool called ImpACT (Immediate Post-Concussion and Cognitive Testing). Developed by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, ImpACT is a computerized exam utilized in many professional, collegiate, and high school sports programs across the country to diagnose and evaluate recovery after a concussion. ImpACT evaluates multiple aspects of neurocognitive function, including memory, attention, brain processing speed, reaction time, and post-concussion symptoms. If an athlete is believed to have sustained a head injury during competition, ImpACT is used to help determine the severity of the head injury, as well as when the injury has fully healed.

The computerized exam is administered to athletes before beginning contact sport practice or competition. This non-invasive test is set up in “video-game” type format and takes about 20-30 minutes to complete. It is simple, and actually, many athletes enjoy the challenge of taking the test. It is, essentially, a pre-season physical of the brain. The ImpACT test tracks information pertaining to each athlete’s neurocognitive function. It is not, however, an IQ test.

If a concussion is suspected, the athlete will be required to re-take the test. Both the pre-season and post-injury test data is then given to the athlete’s family physician to help evaluate the injury. The test data will enable the health professionals to determine when return to play is appropriate and safe for the injured athlete.

Please note: ImpACT testing procedures are non-invasive and pose no risk to the athletes. We are excited to offer this program, as it will provide us with the best available information for managing concussions and preventing the potential brain damage that can occur with multiple concussions. Villa Maria Academy is committed to keeping the health and safety of your child at the forefront of her athletic experience here. We thank you for supporting us in our efforts. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Continue to next page for Consent



Consent Form for ImPACT Testing
(Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing)

I have read the attached information relating to ImPACT Testing.

I understand the contents of the presented information.

I have been given an opportunity to ask questions, and all questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

I agree to participate in the ImPACT Concussion Management Program.

PRINTED NAME OF ATHLETE _____

SPORT(S) _____

Signature of Athlete

Date

Signature of Parent

Date