

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS

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ANDREWS

Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center

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Lisa G. Warren

March 9, 2015

Mr. Dave Sadler
National Athletic Trainers' Association
1620 Valwood Parkway, Suite 115
Carrollton, TX 75006

Dear Dave,

Andrews Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center (ASMOC) proudly supports the Youth Sports Safety Alliance and its initiative to make athletic participation safer for young athletes through education, research and advocacy.

Since 1987, in collaboration with our education and research partner, the American Sports Medicine Institute (ASMI), our team of physicians have worked to improve the understanding, prevention and treatment of sports-related injuries.

Andrews Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center proudly supports the Youth Sports Safety Alliance's commitment to:

1. Ensure that youth athletes have access to health care professionals who are qualified to make assessments and decisions.
2. Educate parents, athletes, coaches, teachers and others about the signs and symptoms of sports injuries and conditions (e.g., brain injury, heat illness and exertional sickling).
3. Assure pre-participation exams before play begins and, where appropriate, conduct baseline testing.
4. Ensure that sports equipment, uniforms, playing surfaces and environmental conditions are checked for safety and best conditions. Write to state legislators and members of Congress, expressing concerns.
5. Insist that research into youth sports injuries and their effects be undertaken immediately and be supported by tax dollars.
6. Support a national registry of sport-related catastrophic injuries and fatalities to improve safety and participation.
7. Demand that appropriate emergency action plans and safety and medical protocols and procedures are in place at every sporting event and facility.
8. Educate players and others that there's a difference between pain and injury; and work to eliminate the culture of "playing through pain" without assessment.
9. Ensure that both general and sport-specific safety education be a priority for every administrator, coach, parent and player.

Sincerely,

Lisa G. Warren
Chief Executive Officer

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