



October 5, 2011

Youth Sports Safety Alliance
c/o Ellen Satlof
National Athletic Trainers' Association
2952 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas, 75247

Dear Ellen,

The Brain Injury Association of New Jersey would like to join the Youth Sports Safety Alliance in its efforts to prevent catastrophic injury and death in young athletes. The Association has a long-standing commitment to addressing prevention of brain injury, and raising awareness about the seriousness of concussion among young athletes. In 2004, the Association formed a Concussion in Youth Sports Committee that began with a summit where groups interested in the well-being of our young athletes met and learned the most current information available about concussion. The Committee developed a Consensus Statement that was endorsed statewide by groups such as the Medical Society of New Jersey; Academy of Pediatrics, New Jersey Chapter; New Jersey Football Coaches Association; New Jersey Trauma Center Council; New Jersey State School Nurse Association; New Jersey Education Association; and many more.

The work of the Committee culminated in the recent signing of concussion legislation in New Jersey that requires that athletes, coaches, and parents and guardians are educated about the nature and treatment of concussions and other sports-related head injuries, and that all measures are taken to prevent a student-athlete from experiencing second-impact syndrome and the effects of multiple concussions. As the legislation goes into effect in schools around New Jersey this fall, the work of the Committee continues, as we do not see this as the end to our efforts but rather the beginning. The Youth Sports Safety Alliance's Call to Action aligns with the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey's mission and we are pleased to support your Call to Action and join you in your cause.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Geiger-Parker".

Barbara Geiger-Parker
President and CEO