



February 10, 2015

Ms. Ellen Satlof  
Public Relations Manager  
National Athletic Trainers' Association  
1620 Valwood Parkway, Suite 115  
Carrollton, Texas 75006

Ms. Satlof,

For more than 75 years, Broward Health has provided quality healthcare to the people we serve in the South Florida community. Today more than ever, that remains the cornerstone of our commitment and our mission as we evolve and grow. As the leading provider of orthopedic and sports medicine services in Broward County we have partnered with the School Board of Broward County to provide certified athletic trainers in twenty of the district's public schools. Through education, supervision and treatment, our athletic trainers currently care for more than 14,500 local high school athletes. Our sports medicine team was instrumental in assisting the School Board in developing their concussion management program. Together with our community partners, Broward Health is committed to safe participation in school and youth sports activities.

We support the National Athletic Trainers' Association and the Youth Sports Safety Alliance in addressing the importance of sports injury prevention. Because of our commitment to the safety and well-being of the youth within our community who participate in sport activities we fully support the Youth Sports Safety Alliance's commitments 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.
5. Write to state legislators and members of Congress, expressing concerns.
6. Insist that research into youth sports injuries and their effects be undertaken immediately and be supported by tax dollars.
7. Support a national registry of sport-related catastrophic injuries and fatalities to improve safety and participation.
8. Demand that appropriate emergency action plans and safety and medical protocols and procedures are in place at every sporting event and facility.
9. 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.
10. Ensure that both general and sport-specific safety education be a priority for every administrator, coach, parent and player.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nabil El Sanadi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Nabil El Sanadi, MD  
President/CEO  
Broward Health