



#### Sports Medicine

1166 Dublin Road, Suite 400  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1081  
(614) 566.GAME (4263)

[ohiohealth.com/sportsmedicine](http://ohiohealth.com/sportsmedicine)

To Ellen Satlof & the Youth Sports Safety Alliance:

OhioHealth is a family of not-for-profit, faith-based hospitals and healthcare organizations. We have been serving patients in central Ohio since 1891. As we grow, so does our belief that people come first. That every patient, no matter who they are and no matter which of our many hospitals or healthcare services they choose, deserves the very best care. We make this happen by providing expert, individualized care and sharing the latest knowledge and innovations across the entire OhioHealth system.

In 2006, we furthered our commitment to quality community care by bringing together several sports medicine physicians and athletic trainers to create the OhioHealth Sports Medicine Institute. This initial group provided care for six high schools and one university. Our never-ending dedication to provide the highest quality of care to our patients has since made us the leader of sports medicine care in central Ohio. We now serve over 19,000 athletes at 35+ high schools, 3 colleges/universities, and 2 professional teams.

It is because of these beliefs and dedication that OhioHealth is proud to 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. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. R. Bill Davis".

W. R. Bill Davis, AT  
Director, OhioHealth Sports Medicine

#### A FAITH-BASED, NOT-FOR-PROFIT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

8 HOSPITALS + 20 HEALTH AND SURGERY CENTERS + WELLNESS + PRIMARY AND SPECIALTY CARE  
URGENT CARE + HOSPICE + HOME HEALTH + 21,000 PHYSICIANS, ASSOCIATES AND VOLUNTEERS