

Be it ordained by the City Council of Cambridge, as follows:

A new Chapter 8.68 shall be added to Article 8 of the Cambridge Municipal Code entitled Health and Safety that provides the following:

Chapter 8.68 – CONCUSSION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT IN YOUTH ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES AT CITY FACILITIES

Sections:

- 8.68.010 Applicability**
- 8.68.020 Definitions**
- 8.68.030 Concussion Prevention & Training**
- 8.68.040 Concussion Management**
- 8.68.050 Permitting Requirements**
- 8.68.060 Enforcement & Administration**
- 8.68.070 Severability & Effective Date**

Section 8.68.010 *Applicability*

The provisions of this Chapter shall be applicable to any Youth Athletic Program at City facilities as defined in this Chapter.

Section 8.68.020 *Definitions*

“Coach” shall mean a coach, assistant coach, certified athletic trainer, trainer, team physician, nurse, or athletic director, whether in a volunteer or for pay capacity, of a Youth Athletic Program.

“Concussion” means a complex disturbance in brain function, due to direct or indirect trauma to the head, related to neurometabolic dysfunction, rather than structural injury.

“Department” shall mean the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

“Head Injury” shall mean a direct blow to the head or indirect trauma to the head including a Concussion or a Traumatic Brain Injury. Scalp or facial laceration alone shall not be included in this definition.

“Parent” shall mean the parent or guardian or foster parent of a Youth Athlete.

“Physician” shall mean a duly licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy.

“Traumatic Brain Injury” (“TBI”) shall mean a complex pathophysiological process affecting the brain, induced by traumatic biomechanical forces. TBI may be caused either by a direct blow to the head, face, neck or elsewhere on the body with an impulsive force transmitted to the head. TBI includes, but is not limited to, a Concussion.

“Youth Athlete” shall mean a minor (those being under the age of eighteen) who prepares for or participates in a Youth Athletic Activity.

“Youth Athletic Activity” shall mean those sports and athletic activities that are more fully set forth in the definition of Extracurricular Athletic Activities in 105 CMR 201.005 of the Department’s Regulations as it may be amended, provided however, that the provisions of this Chapter shall only be applicable to Youth Athletic Programs as defined in this Section. Youth Athletic Activities shall not include Youth Athletic Programs operated by the City, including those operated by the Cambridge Public Schools and/or the Cambridge Department of Human Services Programs.

“Youth Athletic Program” shall mean any independent youth sports program organized or operated for athletic activities, competition or instruction for participants under the age of eighteen. Youth Athletic Programs shall not include Youth Athletic Programs operated by the City, including those operated by the Cambridge Public Schools and/or the Cambridge Department of Human Services Programs.

Section 8.68.030 *Concussion Prevention & Training*

All Youth Athletic Programs shall ensure that all of its Coaches annually complete a head injury training program approved by the Department as found on the Department’s website. Youth Athletic Program Coaches must, in addition to on-line training programs approved by the Department, participate in any additional training required by regulations promulgated by the City’s Chief Public Health Officer for the administration of this Ordinance. Youth Athletic Program Coaches may, in addition to the training required by this Ordinance and any regulations issued by the City’s Chief Public Health Officer, participate in live training programs that provide training in the recognition, management, response, and prevention of Concussions and other sports-related Head Injuries.

Each Youth Athletic Program shall maintain a record of completion of annual training for all persons required to complete any and all training required by regulations promulgated by the City's Chief Public Health Officer in the manner set forth in such regulations.

Section 8.68.040 *Concussion Management*

A Youth Athlete who sustains a Concussion or Head Injury or suspected Concussion or Head Injury, or exhibits signs and/or symptoms of a Concussion or Head Injury, or loses consciousness even briefly, shall be removed from participation in the Youth Athletic Activity immediately. The Youth Athlete's Coach shall immediately notify the Parent of the Youth Athlete that the Youth Athlete has been removed from participation in the Youth Athletic Activity for a known or suspected Concussion or Head Injury.

A Youth Athlete who has been removed from participation in a Youth Athletic Activity for the reasons stated above may not return to participation in the Youth Athletic Activity until the Youth Athlete receives appropriate medical clearance as required by regulations promulgated by the City's Chief Public Health Officer.

Section 8.68.050 *Permitting Requirements*

Before the first permitting or use of a facility owned by the City of Cambridge and annually thereafter, any Youth Athletic Program must certify on a form approved by the Cambridge Department of Human Services Programs that its Coaches have completed the required training as required in this Ordinance.

Section 8.68.060 *Enforcement & Administration*

The City's Chief Public Health Officer or his or her designee shall be the chief enforcement officer of this Ordinance and shall have the authority to issue regulations to administer and promote the purposes of this Ordinance which includes publicly disseminating information about the nature and risk of Concussions and other sports related Head Injuries; regulating the prevention and management of such injuries; regulating Head Injury training requirements and regulating the criteria for removal from and return to physical participation in a Youth Athletic Activity.

Should any Youth Athletic Program be found in noncompliance with any of the provisions of this Ordinance, such Youth Athletic Program may be suspended from using any facilities owned by the City of Cambridge for Youth Athletic Activities for a period of up to thirty (30) days or until such violation is cured, whichever is sooner, and may be issued a fine of up to \$300.00 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 1.24 herein. Each day of noncompliance shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 8.68.070 *Severability & Effective Date*

If any provision of these sections shall be held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then such provision shall be considered separately and apart from the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

The provisions of these sections shall be effective 90 days after passage.

Filed in Council: , 2013