

Information on Compliance with Senate Bill 5083

"Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Act"

The safety of our players is paramount to Washington State Youth Sports. Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death for youth athletes, with as many as 1 in 250 youth athletes having a heart disorder that may increase the risk of sudden cardiac arrest. On July 24, 2015, a new State of Washington law regarding sudden cardiac arrest awareness will go into effect. SB 5083 – referred to as the [Sudden Cardiac Arrest \(SCA\) Awareness Act](#) – was passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor with the intent of making youth athletes, their families, and coaches aware of sudden cardiac arrest.

Similar to the Zachery Lystedt Law (HB 1824) for concussion awareness passed in 2009, SB 5083 specifically outlines requirements for private nonprofit groups, such as youth soccer clubs/associations, to comply with prior to their first use of school facilities in Washington State by the private nonprofit group. For our member organizations, this means that each club/association that requests school fields/facilities must comply with SB 5083 before the school district will allow use of their facilities.

Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) recently notified WA Youth Soccer of the new law and WIAA has been charged by the Legislature with providing resources for school districts and private nonprofit groups to comply with the new law and raise awareness of this important issue.

Requirements for Member Clubs and Associations

In order to comply with SB 5083, there are three main areas of immediate action for our clubs and associations:

1. **Annual Statement of Compliance (waiver) from Parent/Guardian and Player** – each year, prior to the beginning of the soccer season, each registered soccer player and the player's parents and/or guardian must sign and submit to the club or association a statement of compliance that the player and parents have both reviewed an [online pamphlet providing information about sudden cardiac arrest](#).
2. **Coach Training and Certificate of Completion Every Three Years** - every three years, each WA Youth Soccer coach and assistant coach must complete an online sudden cardiac arrest prevention program and submit a certificate showing completion of the program to the club/association. WIAA is still working on the training program for coaches; in the meantime, WIAA recommends the use of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NHFS) online training. The training takes approximately 15 minutes and is available for free at <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/61032>.
3. **Statement of Compliance from Club/Association** - when a club/association plans to use the fields of a school, it must then submit to the school district a Statement of Compliance, which is a certificate stating that it has the statements of compliance from the players and parents/guardians and the training certificates of completion from the coaches, in compliance with the Act.

The Statement of Compliance must also certify and provide proof of insurance meeting the requirements of the Act. The insurance policy requirements are:

- an accident and liability policy
- with coverage of at least \$50,000 for bodily injury or death of one person or at least \$100,000 for bodily injury or death of two or more persons in any incident; and
- issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in Washington State