

Emergency Action Plan for Coaches and Managers: Know Your Responsibilities

In the event of an emergency, *coaches and managers* play vital roles in ensuring the safety and well-being of players. Understanding your responsibilities and being prepared to act swiftly and effectively is paramount. Here's how you can fulfill your role:

Preparation:

1. EAP Organization:

- Initiate a meeting at the beginning of the season to ensure all necessary volunteers are identified for the Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Assign roles such as call person and control person to designated individuals.

2. Player Safety:

- Familiarize yourself with the EAP but do not assume the roles of call person or control person. Instead, focus on ensuring the smooth operation of the plan and coordinating assistance as needed.

In Case of Emergency:

1. Player Management:

- In the event of a serious injury, your primary responsibility is to ensure the safety and well-being of all players.
- Keep all other players on the team at the bench or direct them to the dressing room as instructed by game officials.

2. Assistance:

- Assistant coaches should support the coach in managing the situation, including keeping players under control and following directives from game officials.
- If the coach is also the contract holder, pre-determine who will assume the supervision role if they are attending to an injured player.

3. Managerial Support:

- Managers should make themselves available to assist the contract holder in any capacity necessary.
- This may include accessing medical history forms, communicating with parents, and providing support to the control person as needed.

Communication:

1. Coordination:

- Maintain open communication with all involved parties, including coaches, players, officials, and medical personnel.
- Ensure that everyone is aware of their roles and responsibilities within the EAP.

2. Information Sharing:

- Share relevant medical information with medical personnel as needed and communicate effectively with parents regarding the situation.

Post-Emergency:

1. Follow-Up:

- After the emergency has been addressed, debrief with all involved parties to assess the effectiveness of the response and identify any areas for improvement.
- Update the EAP as necessary based on lessons learned from the emergency situation.

By following these guidelines and being prepared to respond calmly and efficiently in emergencies, coaches and managers can contribute to the safety and well-being of all individuals involved in ice and turf activities.