



## PPCBA Medical Emergency Procedures

In the case of an injured player where the injury is severe enough to need an ambulance or emergency medical personnel, here is how all PPCBA coaches and their staffs should handle the situation. All of these responsibilities should be pre-determined so each coach knows exactly what he is supposed to do and there is no panic or confusion. The safety of our players is first and foremost and getting the proper treatment and getting it as soon as possible is our top priority.

1. The **Head Coach** should stay with the injured player and his parents until the EMT's arrive and the player has been loaded for transport to the hospital. Make sure all other players clear the area and stay completely away from the injured player (see #3 below). Stay by the injured player's side at all times—literally at his side—no exceptions. In a case where the parents aren't at the game this is even more important. The injured player is scared and may even fall into a state of shock if the injury is severe enough. Be there to comfort and console him and to answer any questions he might have to reassure him. Keep him calm and stay calm yourself. Once the EMT's arrive answer any questions that they might have about how the injury happened and what has transpired since. At this time you should provide the EMT's with the consent for treatment form for the injured player and let them know who his doctor is and hospital of choice. If you are playing out of town and are not familiar with the local hospitals, just let the EMT's decide where to take the injured player. If necessary, the head coach should administer any basic first aid (i.e. stop/control bleeding) while waiting on the EMT's to arrive. If the required first aid is beyond the coaches knowledge or abilities do not hesitate to have one of your assistant coaches or parents discretely ask if there are any qualified medical personnel in the crowd or at the complex. **NOTE: EVERY PPCBA TEAM IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A FULLY STOCKED FIRST AID KIT AT EVERY LEAGUE GAME!** Failure to do so may lead to your team being suspended from league play.
2. A pre-designated **Assistant Coach** should call 911 immediately and go to the entrance of the ball park or athletic facility and wait for the ambulance. This coach should be the coach on your staff who always has his cell phone with him. It is important that this coach know the correct name and address of the fields or complex and any and all cross streets or streets leading to the facility. He should stay at the entrance of the facility until the ambulance arrives and lead them directly to the field and the injured player. *This is his only responsibility during this time.*
3. **Assistant Coach #2** should gather all of the other players either in the dugout (if the injured player is out on the field) or out in the outfield if the injured player has been moved to the dugout for treatment. He should stay with the players the entire time and should do everything possible to let them know that the situation is under control and that their teammate is going to be fine. He should try to keep speculation or rumors to a minimum. The last thing he wants to do is let any players wander over to the injured player and provide commentary.
4. If there is another coach available (a pre-designated parent can do this as well) they should make themselves available to answer any questions that parents or on-lookers might have. They should also keep all parents and siblings away from the field and dugout. They should discourage any speculation on the player's injury and do their best to calm the emotions of the parents of the other players. In a case of where the injury is a result of a "bean ball" or a collision between two players on opposing teams this coach or parent should do his best to prevent parents from making accusations about one player doing something intentional to hurt another player etc.. The last thing we want is an argument or physical confrontation between the parents of two opposing teams. If this does happen you need to be ready to call the police immediately.
5. In an extreme case where you have two players on your team who collide or are injured on the same play and are down at the same time, everyone should still perform their pre-assigned responsibilities. Don't change anyone's role. No exceptions. You simply find another team parent or responsible adult to stay with the other injured player and perform the same duties that the head coach would do and everyone does the same thing.