



## REPLACEMENT PLAYER RULES IN THE EVENT OF A SUSPECTED CONCUSSION

### Preamble

The BSF does not want any player who is potentially concussed to feel that they must stay on the field of play, so rules that govern their replacement must be easy to apply.

### Replacement rule

If a player leaves the game because of a suspected concussion, a replacement player can take their place for the rest of that inning plus one additional inning without this being officially considered as a substitution. If after that time the original player is not able to return to the game, then the substitution becomes official.

### Who can the replacement player be?

The replacement player should be someone from the same team who isn't already playing.

If the team doesn't have a spare player, then a "ringer" could be used, subject to tournament or league rules.

If neither of these are an option, the team should play short-handed with an automatic out, again subject to tournament or league rules.

### League games

The preceding is designed for tournament situations where a First Aider qualified to do so may be able to make a determination on whether a concussion has been sustained. For league games, however, where there is no guarantee that a qualified First Aider will be available, a player showing any concussion symptoms or indications should not return to play in that game and should not return to play at all until cleared to do so by a doctor or other qualified person.

The overriding consideration with suspected concussion in any situation is: **If in doubt, sit them out.**