



### **Suspected Concussion in the AIL (Referee Reported)**

If a player in your club has been reported as suffering from a suspected concussion by the referee and your club believes that the player did not suffer from a concussion the following steps should be taken so that the player can return to play without entering the GRTP process.

1. A letter from a registered medical doctor, on headed paper must be emailed to the IRFU stating that in his/her opinion the player has not been concussed and it is safe for them to return to play. **This review must take place within 48 hours of the suspected incident.**
2. The following should be made available to the doctor who is asked to clear a player who has been removed by the referee with a suspected concussion:
  - The referees report (from the initial email from IRFU)
  - All AIL matches are videoed and therefore the event should be available for review by the doctor.
  - The post match SCAT5
  - Any other relevant information from the club physiotherapist or person who witnessed the event or managed the player at the time.
3. The SCAT5 tool is the recommended tool for assessing concussion. The SCAT5 must be carried out on the day of the incident and should also be conducted 36-48 hours later. *“Evolving and delayed-onset symptoms of sports related concussion are well documented and highlight the need to consider follow-up serial evaluation after a suspected sports related concussion regardless of a negative sideline screening test or normal early evaluation”* Consensus statement on concussion in sport—the 5th International Conference on Concussion in Sport held in Berlin. **This SCAT5 should be submitted as part of the letter to the IRFU Medical Coordinator.**
4. This letter, along with the checklist below, should be sent to the Medical Dept Coordinator at [mairead.liston@irfu.ie](mailto:mairead.liston@irfu.ie) by **12pm on the Thursday following the event.**
5. The IRFU medical dept will review all letters and confirm, in writing, whether or not clearance has been given for the player to return to play without following the GRTP.
6. On receipt of a doctor’s letter if the IRFU considers that the player should still enter the GRTP, they will write to the club outlining the reasons for their decision.
7. If the club continue to disagree with the IRFU’s decision and wish to appeal it, the case will be reviewed by an independent AIL Concussion panel which will consist of: a lawyer, a medical doctor with experience in SRC in rugby, and a member of the IRFU Disciplinary Panel.



## Checklist for Clearing Player Post Removal with Suspected Concussion.

PLAYER DETAILS			
Surname:		First Name:	
Team:		Playing Position:	
Date of event:		Jersey number:	
Opposing team:			

DOCTOR DETAILS			
Name:			
Practice Address:			
IMC Number:			
Email:		Phone:	

MEDICAL INFORMATION			
Name and contact of Medic at Match			
Role	Doctor / Physiotherapist / Other (please specify)		
	YES	NO	
SCAT 5 completed post game			Normal      Abnormal
Referees Report reviewed			
Witness collateral history taken			
Game Video reviewed			Interpretation:
<b>Checklist, ensure you have included the following:</b>			
1. Dated letter of Clearance on headed paper		<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Post injury SCAT 5		<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Video Clip of incident		<input type="checkbox"/>	