

Rowan's Law

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do we have to comply with the Rowan's Law requirements?

Answer:

Yes, you must collect all Concussion Acknowledgement Forms at your next skating lesson from all athletes (26 years of age and under) and parent of athletes under 18 years of age. **Please Note: Skaters and their parents who are registered in CanSkate, CanPowerSkate and STAR 1-4 programs are exempt from this requirement.**

2. How do we provide our athletes and parents the code of conduct and access to the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources?

Answer:

You can send the information out in an email to your athletes and/or parents/guardians. You can provide and hand out the information in a newsletter and ask them to review, sign and return the Concussion Acknowledgement Form at the next skating lesson. **Clearly state: the athlete will not be allowed to skate until the club/school receives the completed acknowledgement.** If you collect registration information and payments electronically, you may also embed an acknowledgement "click" in your system.

3. How do the coaches and officials comply with Rowan's Law?

Answer:

Skate Ontario requires all Ontario coaches and officials to complete the compliance of Rowan's Law through Skate Canada's eLearning platform which they will be required to sign the Concussion Acknowledgement Form. This will be recorded on their Skate Canada file. **Clubs and School do not need to collect the Concussion Acknowledgement Form for coaches and officials.**

4. How does our club/school know if our coaches and officials have reviewed the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources and the Skate Ontario Code of Conduct?

Answer:

Clubs and Schools **do not** have to verify if their coaches and officials are in compliance, it will be Skate Ontario's responsibility to follow up with individual coaches and officials to ensure they complete the Rowan's Law eLearning course and confirm the Concussion Acknowledgement.

5. Can a section be added to the club/skating school's online registration for Rowan's Law information that is a "Check Box Acceptance"?

Answer:

Yes this is acceptable as long as your system is built to ensure that the information that must be read by the skater, and where applicable the parent, is easily accessible. In cases where the skater is under the age of 18 years and the parent is also required to confirm an acknowledgement, **a separate check box must be created** for each the skater and the parent. A parent's acknowledgement does not replace the acknowledgment of the skater.

Recommended Language for online "Checkbox" for Skaters:

I acknowledge that I am the skater participating in physical activities at the (insert name of Skating Club/Skating School and I have read the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resource for my age group **and the Skate Ontario Concussion Code of Conduct** and understand what a concussion is and how it may be caused. I understand the importance of reporting a suspected concussion to my coaches and my parent/guardian. I understand that I must be removed from practice/competition if a concussion is suspected. I understand that I must provide written clearance from an appropriate health care provider to my coach before returning to practice/competition. I understand the possible consequence of returning to practice/competition too soon and that my brain needs time to heal.

Recommended Language for online "Checkbox" for Parents:

I acknowledge that my child is participating in physical activities at the [insert name of Skating Club/Skating School) and I have read the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resource for his/her age group **and the Skate Ontario Concussion Code of Conduct** and understand what a concussion is and how it may be caused. I understand the importance of reporting a suspected concussion to coaches and any other designated persons at the club/skating school. I understand that my child must be removed from practice/competition if a concussion is suspected. I understand that I must provide written clearance from an appropriate health care provider to my coach before my child is permitted to return to practice/competition. I understand the possible consequence of returning to practice/competition too soon and that my child's brain needs time to heal.

The club/skating school's system must also be able to generate a report confirming when the acknowledgment was "checked off" by the skater and the parent for audit purposes.

6. How long does the club/skating school need to keep the acknowledgment record on file?

Answer:

Skate Ontario is recommending 7 years.

7. If the skater and parent (if applicable) have already completed the education and acknowledgment process when registering with another organization (i.e. different sport, different club), do is it need to be done again?

Answer:

Yes. This process must be completed for every organization you register with.

8. How often does this need to be done?

Answer:

Annually.