South Dakota’s Rank: 9th out of 51 States (including Washington D.C)
South Dakota’s Score: 60.58 out of 100 Points

ABOUT KSI
In the past ten years, 222 children have died from sports related injuries while participating in organized high school athletics. Some of the most common causes of death in sports are sudden cardiac arrest, exertional heat stroke, and traumatic head injury.

The Korey Stringer Institute is dedicated to preventing sudden death in sports. Recently KSI has published a study that ranked states by their health and safety policies according to best practices established by panels of experts in the field.

Our mission is to inform parents, coaches, and community members about the steps that South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) and South Dakota’s legislators have taken to protect athletes.

Ranks and Scores are accurate as of August 2019

Definitions:
AHCC (Appropriate Healthcare Coverage), EHS (Exertional Heat Stroke), EP (Emergency Preparedness), SCA (Sudden Cardiac Arrest), THI (Traumatic Head Injuries)
Policies Currently in Place for South Dakota

1E: Every school or organization that sponsors athletics should develop an EAP specifically for managing serious and/or potentially life-threatening sport-related injuries (athletics emergency action plan AEAP).

3E: Every school should distribute the AEAP to all athletics staff.

4E: The AEAP should be specific to each venue (including maps, directions, etc.).

9E: AEAP should be reviewed and rehearsed annually by all parties involved.

Possible Improvements for South Dakota

2E: The AEAP should be developed and coordinated with local EMS, school public safety officials, on site medical personnel or school medical staff, and school administrators.

5E: On-site emergency equipment that may be needed in an emergency situation should be listed.

6E: The AEAP should identify personnel and their responsibilities to carry out the plan of action with a designated chain of command.

7E: Appropriate contact information for EMS.

8E: Plan should specify documentation actions that need to be taken post emergency.

10E: Healthcare professionals who will provide medical coverage during games, practices, or other events should be included.

Emergency Preparedness Policies

Emergency Action Plans are concrete written plans that reduce critical delays in care of catastrophic injuries.

What Can You Do?

Reach out to the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA). Make sure the officials responsible for student-athlete safety are using best practices.

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