



National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association

Position Statement: Liability in Athletics

WHEREAS the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) believes athletics is an integral part of the total educational mission of our schools;

WHEREAS the NIAAA believes the health and safety of those involved in school athletic programs is of the highest priority; and

WHEREAS the NIAAA recognizes that the highest standards of health and safety can best be met by hiring qualified coaches, providing adequate supervision, safe equipment, and hazard free facilities; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED the NIAAA encourages all school and/or school districts to provide educational opportunities for all personnel to become safety literate;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the NIAAA encourages all schools and/or school districts to implement a risk management program which incorporates procedures for warning athletes about sports hazards, hiring qualified coaches, and providing ongoing educational opportunities for all coaches, implementing proper supervision standards, evaluating athletes for injuries or incapacity, selecting and maintaining safe equipment and facilities, developing a written emergency action plan, properly conditioning athletes, matching athletes for appropriate competition, and providing safe transportation and insurance information; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the NIAAA will join with other sports-related groups to effect legislation protecting school personnel from unwarranted litigation.