

Concussion & Incident Management

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www.rugby.ca



**CONCUSSION PREVENTION,
MANAGEMENT & EDUCATION**

**RUGBY CANADA LEADS IN
CONCUSSION PREVENTION,
MANAGEMENT AND
EDUCATION AS
ORGANIZATION PREPARES
TO MARK ROWAN'S LAW
DAY**

Background to SportLoMo Incident & Concussion Management



Canada Rugby wanted to identify how to improve the management of concussion

Rowans law very high on their priority list.

SportLoMo had discussions with Rugby Canada to understand the processes they were planning to put in place and SportLoMo agreed to create features to help track and manage concussion.

The Incident Management module can be configured for different incident types, so far, we see it used to manage all types of injuries and it is also used to manage discipline, but we know there will be other use cases.

SportLoMo consistently add new functionality to the platform at no charge to our sports users. Incident management is an example of this.

In the case of Rugby Canada the Incident Management Module facilitates Concussion Management with the use of 'Blue Cards'.

More information on www.rugbontario.com/bluecard.

Each sport can setup their own incident types, procedures and approval processes.

Any number of incident types can be managed.

Incident Management

Record

Track

Manage



Overview

History

Run Reports

How a typical incident (injury) is managed on SportLoMo

The system is configured to meet the incident reporting processes and protocols of each sport. e.g. return to play following a concussion.

The Incident Manager creates a list of incident types, adds drop down lists which describe where, when and what incident occurred (example on next page). Any number of incident types can be created.

When an incident/concussion occurs it is submitted by a game official or designate. This triggers an automated process to ensure incident protocols are followed.

The individual, clubs, coaches receive an automated email notification with the required process to be followed. The admin decides who should be notified on what type of incident.

There are many options to manage an incident on the system, such as make an individual's status 'inactive'.

This prevents the player from being made available for selection on a team sheet (roster) until they follow the required return to play protocols.

Approval mechanisms can be set to ensure each incident case is reviewed.

In the case of an injury, the sport determines what evidence the player is required to produce before they can return to play i.e. upload a medical assessment.

The administrator can view the full incident history and if satisfied that protocols have been followed, they can 'reactivate' an individual and mark the Review as 'completed'.

Each incident remains recorded on the individual's profile and documents and records are retained.

Management can run off report on incidents/injuries etc.



Canada Rugby take the lead in Concussion Management

www.rugby.ca

September 26, 2002 | Langford, British Columbia, Canada

As Rowan's Law Day approaches, Rugby Canada proudly takes the lead among the country's National Sports Organizations in concussion prevention, management and education.

Passed in 2018 by the Ontario Government, Rowan's Law is named in honour of Rowan Stringer, a 17year old rugby player from Ottawa who died tragically in 2013 of Second Impact Syndrome having suffered multiple concussions within a short space of time whilst playing rugby.

To prevent a similar tragedy from ever happening again, all matches played under the jurisdiction of Rugby Canada and the country's Provincial Unions must comply with Rugby Canada Concussion Guidelines and World Rugby's Recognize and Remove protocols.

Additionally, with Rugby Canada's support, Rugby Ontario recently introduced a Blue Card Program for the 2022 season, whereby a process is initiated by a coach, player or match official during a game to identify an individual who needs removal from the field of play due to a suspected concussion.

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Rugby Canada is also working closely with the University of Toronto to review the initial implementation of the Blue Card Program through the lens of match officials.

Rugby Canada's registration partner, SportLoMo, worked to adapt the system to ensure athletes received the most up to date information in an automated and effective manner.

The Blue Card Program is happening concurrently with research being conducted by the SHRed Concussions team from the University of Calgary, in partnership with Rugby Canada, focused on the prevention of concussions and injuries in female youth rugby.

In 2022, Rowan's Law Day took place on September 28th, individuals and sports wear purple to commemorate Rowan's Law Day each year.

Paul Hunter, Senior Director of Community Rugby and Development for Rugby Canada



“We, as a National Sports Organization, are extremely proud of the work being done in rugby in Canada around concussion prevention, management and education.

World Rugby's Recognize and Remove protocols, the successful implementation of Rugby Ontario's Blue Card Program, Rugby Canada's partnership with the University of Toronto to conduct research with match officials and concussion management and our work with the University of Calgary to research the impact of concussions in female youth rugby will be vital in bettering our game and creating safe spaces for everyone.”

Rugby Ontario Blue Card



All matches played under the jurisdiction of Rugby Canada and the provincial unions comply with Rugby Canada Concussion Guidelines (**recognize and remove**). To assist in player safety and game welfare, Rugby Canada and Rugby Ontario has rolled out the Blue Card at all levels of the game in Ontario (powered by Sportlomo).



BLUE CARD PILOT

The Rugby Ontario pilot was conducted during the 2019 season. There were seven players issued a Blue Card which meant that these players were not able to participate in a game until they had been medically assessed, and if necessary cleared.

The Blue Card Pilot was considered a success and the program was introduced throughout all rugby activities in Rugby Ontario in the 2021 season. The Blue Card has been already successfully introduced in Australia, New Zealand and France.

More info www.rugbyontario.com/bluecard/

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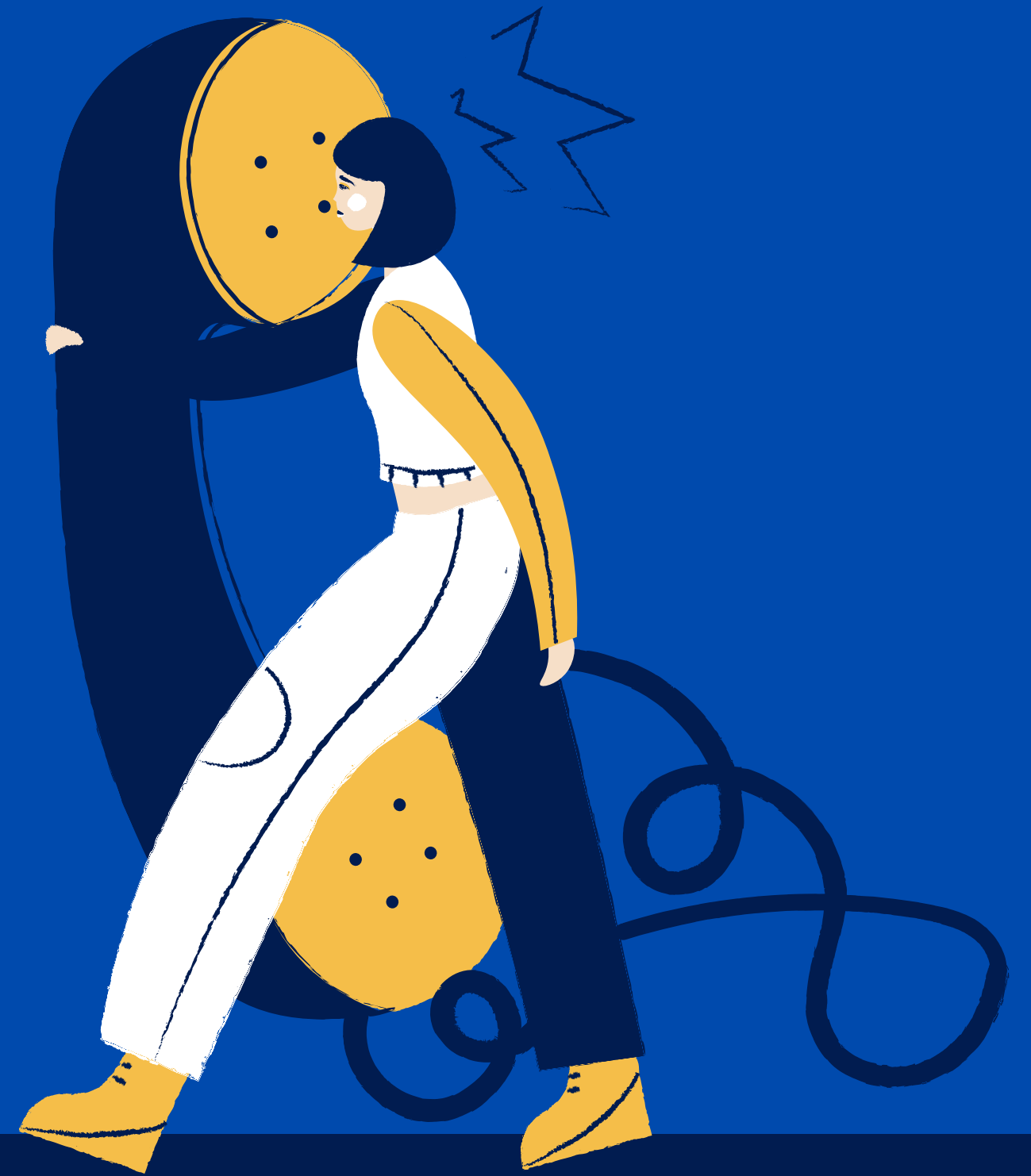
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