

A National Injury Surveillance Program for U SPORTS

June 5, 2017

Mississauga, Ont.

Glen Bergeron PhD CAT(C)
Chair of Steering Committee



CCUPEKA Questions

- Are concussions prevalent amongst the member institutions of U SPORTS
- Is U SPORTS or its member institutions legally vulnerable because of concussions like the NFL, NHL, and CFL?
- Should U SPORTS and its member institutions hold themselves to a higher standard of practice regarding concussions because of their affiliation to institutions of higher learning (universities)?

Judge OK's \$75M class-action concussions settlement against NCAA

Steve Berkowitz , USA TODAY Sports July 14, 2016

The money is to be used to set up a 50-year, \$70 million medical monitoring program for college athletes and a new \$5 million program “to research the prevention, treatment, and/or effects of concussions.”



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Student-Athlete Concussion Injury Litigation

If you played a NCAA sport at a member school any time prior to July 15, 2016, you may be entitled to free medical screening and may receive free medical testing, known as “medical monitoring,” up to two times over the next 50 years. You do not need to have been diagnosed with a concussion to be a member of the medical monitoring class.

Current and former NCAA student-athletes may benefit from the settlement of a class action lawsuit (*In re National Collegiate Athletic Association Student-Athlete Concussion Litigation*, Case No. 1:13-cv-09116), which is pending before Judge John Z. Lee of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

The court has granted preliminary approval of the settlement and has set a final hearing to take place on **May 5, 2017**, at 10 a.m. to determine if the settlement is fair, reasonable and adequate. The judge will also consider the request by class counsel for attorneys’ fees and expenses, as well as the service awards for the class representatives.

To inform current and former NCAA student-athletes on the settlement, a specific [website](#) has been developed to communicate pertinent details.

Tags: [Topics](#) • [Health and Safety](#) • [Concussions](#)

Concussion Injury Litigation Resources

[NCAA Student-Athlete Concussion Injury Litigation Website](#)

[Concussion Injury Litigation FAQs for Member Institutions](#)



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AIG discontinues NFL head injury coverage

by Lyle Adriano
14 Jun 2016

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New York-based insurance company [AIG](#) has announced that it has stopped insuring NFL players against head injuries, *New York Post* reported.

A few years ago, the company had stopped its head injury coverage for Pop Warner, the country's largest youth football league. K&K Insurance has since stepped in to replace [AIG](#) as Pop Warner's insurer.

Despite discontinuing its insurance policy with the NFL, [AIG](#) remains an ardent supporter of USA Football—a nonprofit created by the NFL to dampen the fears of concussions

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Are concussions an issue in U SPORTS?



[http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/138182/
concussion-1.jpg](http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/138182/concussion-1.jpg)

U SPORTS Concussion Snapshot

- August 2015 – March 2016
- Reported by Staff Athletic Therapists

		Percent
Total U SPORTS Schools	55	
Number of Schools Responding	47	85
Number of Schools recording Concussion Data	38	81
Number of Schools not recording Concussion Data	9	19

Summary Data

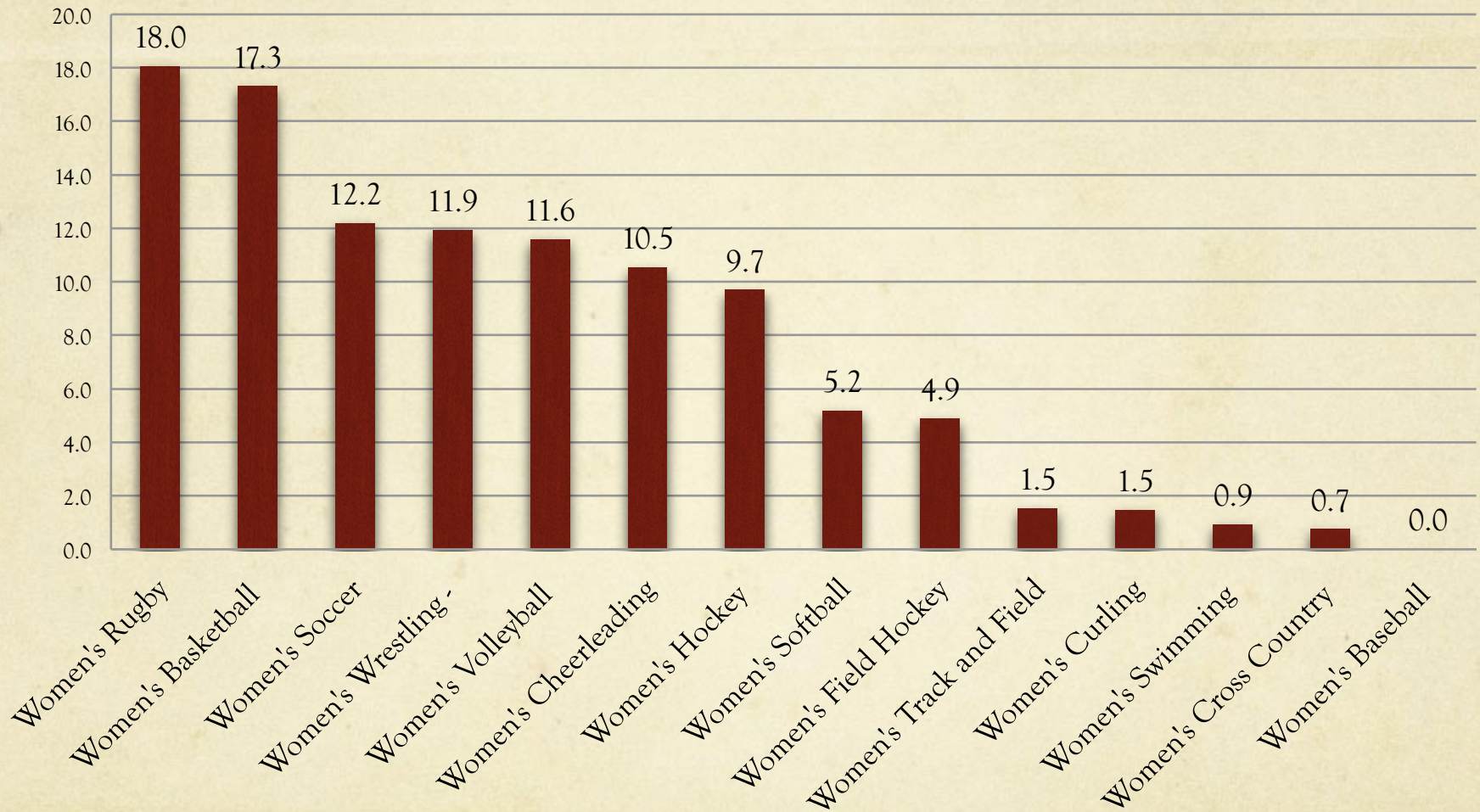
- Injuries expressed as a percentage of roster size (no exposure rates available)

Total Number of Athletes	9052
Total Number of concussions	839
Percentage frequency of total concussions (U SPORTS)	9.30%

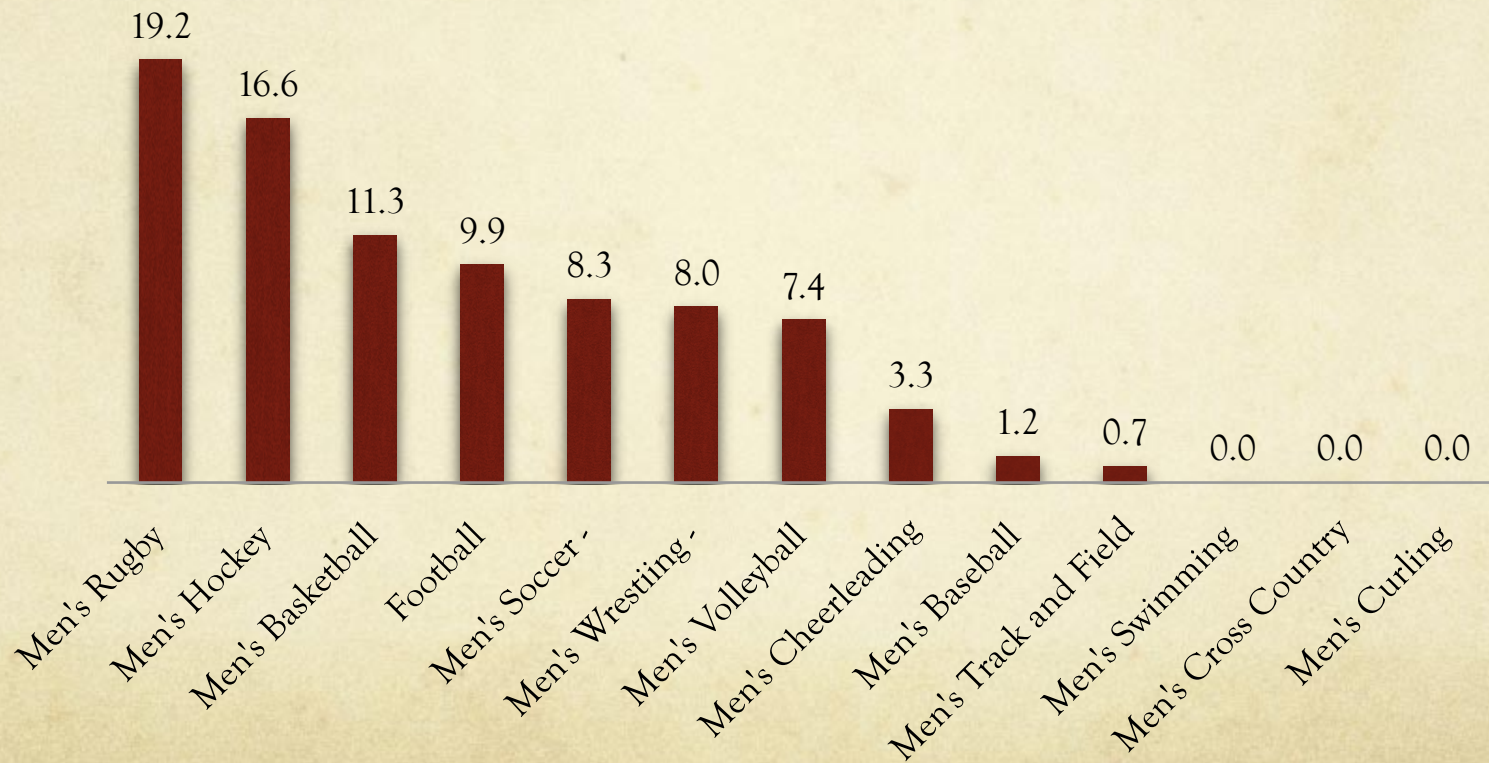
Concussions by Sport



Concussions by Gender_Female



Concussions by Gender _ Male



Future Directions

- There is a need to drill deeper into the incidence of concussions to determine other variables including:
 - Exposure rates
 - Recurrence rates
 - Games vs Practice
 - Level of experience
 - Protective equipment
 - Field of play conditions
 - Type of activity (blocking, tackling etc)
 - Loss time

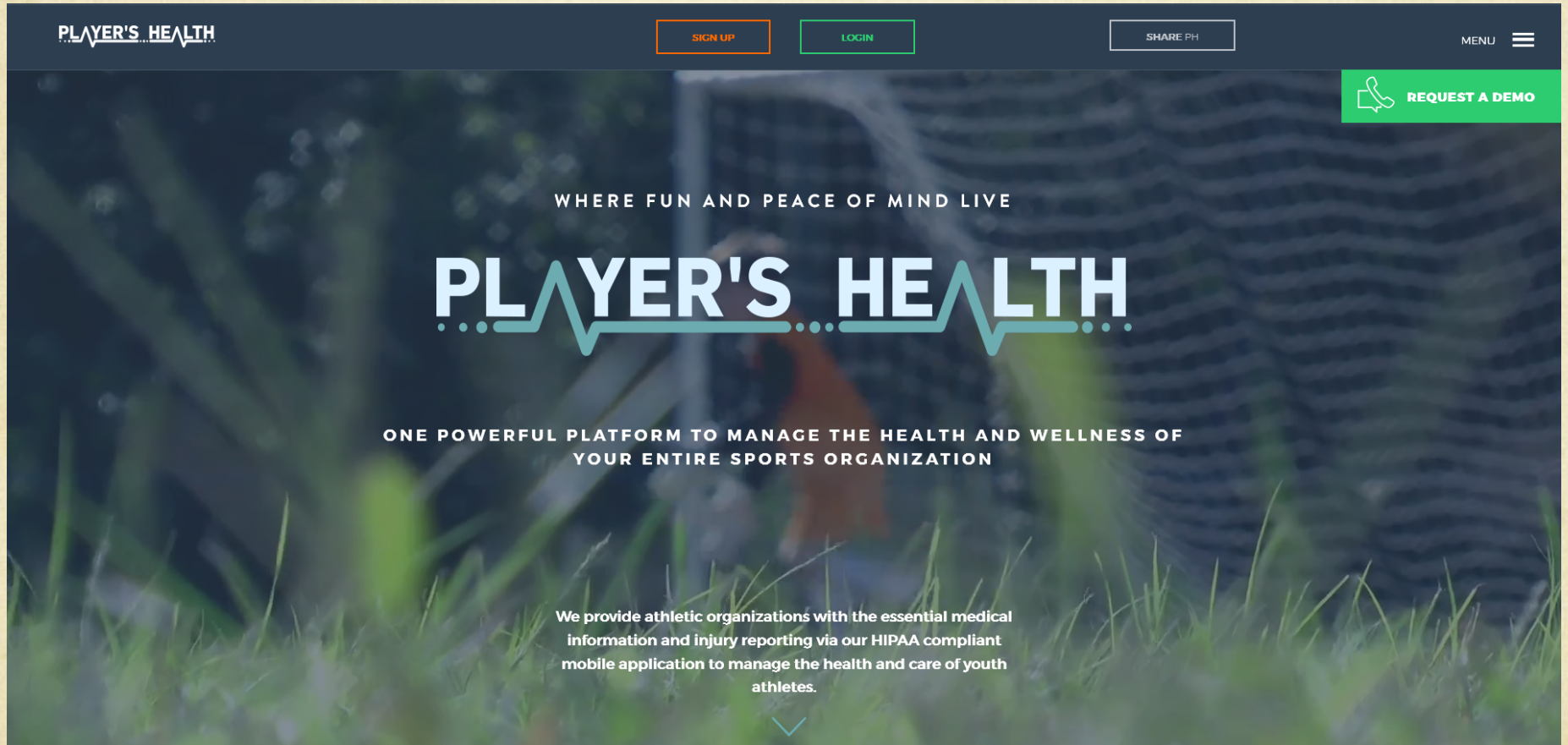
U SPORTS Injury Surveillance Ad Hoc Steering Committee

<i>Name</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Conference</i>
Glen Bergeron	University of Winnipeg	Chair
Kurt Stevenson	Sant Mary's University	Atlantic University Sport
Jim McLeod	Acadia University	Atlantic University Sport
Jocelyne Dowling	Mount Allison University	Atlantic University Sport
Jeff Billeck	University of Winnipeg	Canada West
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Amanda Black	University of Calgary	Canada West
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Crissy McPhee	University of Ottawa	OUAA
Jennifer Martins	Wilfred Laurier University	OUAA
Sean Christensen	Concordia University	RSEQ
Lisette Johnson Stapley	USport	

Recommendations

- Align a common electronic medical records system for all member institutions
- To have as many member institutions subscribe to a common electronic medical records system next year
- That the ad hoc injury surveillance steering committee recommends that *Player's Health* be considered for adoption.

Player's Health



Player's Health

Who owns the data?

- Each athlete owns their data and has the right exclude the data from any aggregate data
- Each institution will have access to their own data and retain the right to be excluded from any aggregate data
- The data is stored on Canadian soil
- Aggregate data would be de-identified by athlete and member institution and by conference if desired
- Access to de-identified aggregate data would require prior institutional ethics approval

Next Steps

- To send each member institution an information package describing the platform, costs and implementation proposal for your consideration
- Making this project a reality will depend on your support





Thank you!



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<http://www.neurosciencemarketing.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/questions-e1401200058457-540x316.jpg>