



**4070 Butler Pike, Ste. 100 • Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462**

## **CLUB SAFETY OFFICER DESCRIPTION & RESPONSIBILITIES**

It is the recommendation of Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer and the Medical Advisory Committee that each club identify a Club Safety Officer. The Club Safety Officer will be a volunteer position. The major responsibility of this individual is to ensure the adherence to both mandatory and recommended policies of Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer, U.S. Soccer and US Youth Soccer as it relates to player safety. Here's a brief outline of expected responsibilities for the Club Safety Officer:

1. Compliance with any current safety guidelines as directed by the state association or its national associations for all club coaches, staff and volunteers. These current policies and guidelines can be found at <http://www.EPYSA.org>. This includes compliance with individual coach certification, mandatory concussion training, as well as awareness and education on the Child Safety Laws, Safe Sport, extreme weather policies, etc.
2. Recommendation for development of an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the club. The EAP outlines how to manage a crisis situation such as spinal injuries, sudden cardiac arrest, inclement weather or heat stroke. The club EAP should then be individualized for each team so that the coach is aware and familiar with the plan should a crisis occur. This will also include any important roster information as it relates to each individual player on the team. The outline for the EAP can be found at [EPYSA.org/player\\_performance](http://EPYSA.org/player_performance).
3. Responsible for disseminating Player Performance information to coaches as it relates to player safety. The coaches need to be aware of the resource and important of reviewing for both practice and game preparedness.
4. Return to play guidelines. It will be the responsibility of the coaches to obtain medical clearance for injured players and the Club Safety Officer will be responsible for facilitating compliance from individual coaches with this process. Doctor's clearance is mandatory for return to play according to our concussion policy. However, we strongly recommend a doctor's written clearance for return to play after other injuries that require additional medical attention. This includes extremity injuries. Additional education/protocol for return to play after certain injuries will be forthcoming.
5. Player medical history. A player's health history and contact information is an important tool in each coach's kit. The Club Safety Officer will be responsible for assuring individual team compliance for each player. Of note: all players registered with Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer will complete medical release forms as part of the registration process. This information should be handy for Club Safety Officers and coaches.

Development of this position will help improve player safety with appropriate resources provided by Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer to help successful implementation. Although a person with a medical background or training may have interest in the position for the club, it is not mandatory. [EPYSA.org/player\\_performance](http://EPYSA.org/player_performance) is the best resource for information relevant to the Club Safety Officer.