



SKATE ONTARIO
SKATECANADA

**Rowan's Law
(Concussion Safety)**

For all Ontario Coaches and Officials to guarantee compliance of Rowan's
Law

Last Update: June 25, 2020



What is Rowan's Law



- Rowan's Law was named for Rowan Stringer, a high school rugby player from Ottawa, who died in the spring of 2013 from a condition known as second impact syndrome (swelling of the brain caused by a subsequent injury that occurred before a previous injury healed). Rowan is believed to have experienced three concussions over six days while playing rugby. She had a concussion but didn't know her brain needed time to heal. Neither did her parents, teachers or coaches.



Coaches and Officials



Skate Ontario Coaches and Officials must confirm that they have reviewed at least one of the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources below and Skate Ontario's Concussion Code of Conduct for Coaches and Officials prior to registration.

The following information should be reviewed prior to completing the Acknowledgement Form:

Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources – Rowan's Law E-booklet:

- [Ages 10 and Under](#)
- [Ages 11-14](#)
- [Ages 15 and Up](#)

[Skate Ontario's Concussion Code of Conduct for Coaches and Officials](#)



Coaches and Officials Cont'd



Requirement:

- Skate Ontario must not allow coaches and officials to serve in these positions for activities that include any athlete under 26 years of age, unless they receive confirmation (in writing/electronically), **annually**, from these individuals that they have reviewed at least one of the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources and Skate Ontario's Code of Conduct for Coaches and Officials.
- Confirmation from the coach/official will be collected at the end of this Skate Canada eLearning course through an Acknowledgement Form. Clubs and School do not need to collect the Concussion Acknowledgement Form for coaches and officials. This will be recorded on their Skate Canada file.



Question and Answers



Question:

Do we have to comply with the requirements of Rowan's Law to be in good standing?

Answer:

Yes, all Ontario coaches and officials must complete this course and the Acknowledgement Form in order to be in compliance with provincial law.

Question:

Do coaches and officials have to review the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources for all 3 age groups?

Answer:

- No, coaches and officials only need to review Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources in the format, and age range that is best suited to them.



Question and Answers



Question:

How do the coaches and officials comply with Rowan's Law?

Answer:

Skate Ontario requires all Ontario coaches and officials to complete the compliance of Rowan's law through Skate Canada's eLearning platform which they will be required to sign the Concussion Acknowledgement Form and will be recorded on their Skate Canada file. Clubs and School do not need to collect the Concussion Acknowledgement Form for coaches and officials.

Question:

How does the club/school know if our coaches and officials have reviewed the Government of Ontario Concussion Awareness Resources and the Skate Ontario Code of Conduct for Coaches and Officials?

Answer:

Clubs and Schools do not have to verify if their coaches and officials are in compliance, it will be Skate Ontario's responsibility to follow up with individual coaches and officials to ensure they complete the Rowan's Law eLearning course and sign the Concussion Acknowledgement Form.



How will the Ministry ensure sport organization compliance with Rowan's Law



- The purpose of this legislation is to promote culture change and make participation in amateur competitive sport safer. The Ontario Government can request an audit from Skate Ontario to ensure compliance has been met within the legislation under Rowans Law.
- It is up to entities and individuals to ensure that they comply with the laws of Ontario. If individuals do not comply with the laws of Ontario, then the organization assumes any risk associated with non-compliance.