



## **On-Field Spine Injury Management Statement**

Updated recommendations have been released through a consensus statement by leading sports medicine organizations related to current recommendations for on-field care of the spine injured athlete. This information can be accessed via these links:

[Consensus Recommendations on the Prehospital Care of the Injured Athlete With a Suspected Catastrophic Cervical Spine Injury](#)

[Best Practices and Current Care Concepts in Prehospital Care of the Spine-Injured Athlete in American Tackle Football](#)

The KSHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee would like to encourage school athletic healthcare personnel, local emergency management personnel, and athletic/activity administrators to collectively review this information and ensure emergency management practices and procedures are in place that are most appropriate for their school. The number of qualified medical personnel available, location of the nearest hospital, and type of equipment involved in the different sports will have significant impact on management decisions such as on-field equipment removal. As part of the emergency action planning process, it is imperative for school administrators, school medical professionals, local team physicians and emergency medical personnel to collectively determine how on-field spine injuries will be managed.

By identifying best-practice protocols and procedures that can be reasonably implemented based on available medical personnel, an organized emergency response for on-field spine injuries can be put in place which provides the best possible care for the injured participant.