EPYSA Injury Surveillance Program Coaches FAQs:

**Q: What is the purpose of this study?**

The goal of this study is to collect injury information from Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer teams to improve the health and safety of the players. The collected data will help establish injury prevention initiatives.

**Q: Why should I participate?**

The data collected during this study is aimed at improving the health and safety of the players. Your participation will improve future injury prevention and decreased player risk.

**Q: How do I get started?**

You will receive an email with instructions and a link to create an InjureFree account. Once you create your account you will be able to report any injuries that occur during a game or practice. You can also download the free InjureFree iPhone application to report injuries at anytime, anywhere. In addition to injury reporting you will receive weekly emails with a link to fill out a very short survey about the number of games and practices that week.

**Q: How much time will it take to complete?**

Initial registration takes about 10 to 15 minutes, and the weekly survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete.

**Q: Can I assign a team manager to complete the weekly survey?**

Yes, once the team is registered, an additional email address can be assigned for the weekly survey.

**Q: What is Injure-Free?**

Injure-free is a confidential online system that we are using to collect data. All forms will be filled out online using this system.

**Q: What is a reportable injury?**

You would report any injury that caused a player to miss a practice or a game.

**Q: How do I report and injury?**

On your iPhone application or online you can log on to your InjureFree account and click “Report Injury”. From there you will fill out a series of survey questions and submit the form. Once the form has been filled out there is nothing further you need to complete.

**Q: What if injury occurs to one of my players outside of club soccer?**

We are sending parents monthly email surveys similar to the coaches’ weekly surveys. Parents will have the opportunity to answer questions about an injury that their child sustained outside of soccer. Coaches will not be responsible for reporting these injuries even if soccer practices and games were missed.

**Q: What is the parents’ involvement in the project?**

Parents have to create their own InjureFree account and register their child. However, if an injury occurs before the parents have a chance to register it does not impact your ability to report an injury. Parents can follow up with their child’s injury report online and a research assistant will contact parents to collect further information about an injury. Parents will also fill out monthly surveys about other sports and activities in which their child is involved.

**Q: Will information I report be protected and remain confidential?**

This research project is HIPAA compliant. All of the injury information will be de-identified and stored on an encrypted server. Individual players will not be identified in any publication. The only personal information that will be collected will allow researchers to contact parents to follow up with an injury.

**Q: Whom can I contact if I have further questions about the research project?**

The principal investigators on the project:

Dr. Kevin Freedman, M.D.: kbfreedman@yahoo.com

Dr. Sommer Hammoud, M.D.: sommer.hammoud@rothmaninstitute.com

**Q: Whom can I contact if I am having technical difficulties with Injure-Free?**

You can email support@injurefree.com if you are having technical difficulties. Alternatively you can schedule a one-on-one web conference with an InjureFree representative through the InjureFree website.