

Policy #	Title: Practice and Competition Coverage	Distribution: Athletic Department, All clinical staff
Effective date: 12/9/09	Revision date: 9/17	Last Reviewed: 08/17
Approvals: RML, DC	Planned Review: 7/18	Reviewed by: RML, JC

BU Athletic Training Services
Practice and Competition Coverage Policy

Decisions regarding the coverage of athletic events by a certified athletic trainer are based on the following:

- Potential for a catastrophic event
- Classification of the sport (collision, contact, non-contact)
- Risk of injury for the planned activities for a given practice/event*
- Published injury rates associated with a given sport*
- Boston University's injury rates
- Characteristics of individuals participating in a given sport
- Practice location
- Availability of certified athletic training staff

* Data sources are provided by the NCAA Injury Surveillance System, the Appropriate Medical Coverage of Intercollegiate Athletics guidelines and other published materials.

These decisions are determined by the senior members of the BU Athletic Training Services staff. These members include the medical director, team physicians, director of athletic training services and head athletic trainers.

These policies are reviewed and updated on an as needed basis and at the end of each academic year.

Collision Sports – Championship-season

The following sports will have an athletic trainer available at full team practices (not including individual workouts, walk-throughs, skate-arounds, shoot-arounds, lifting/conditioning) and competitions (home and away) during their championship season:

Men's Ice Hockey, Men's Lacrosse, Rugby

An athletic trainer will not be present for "individual" workouts or team lifts, scheduled outside the normal full-team practice time. Contact activities should not be conducted during these "individual" workouts.

All coaches will be supplied with emergency contact information for the athletic training staff and the campus emergency response system for any incident that may arise during these times.

This policy is intended to guide patient care. Medical conditions and specific medical situations are often complex and require health care providers to make independent judgments. These policies may be modified by practitioners to achieve maximal patient outcomes.

Contact Sports – Championship Season

The following sports will have an athletic trainer available at full team practices (not including individual workouts, walk-throughs, skate-arounds, shoot-arounds, lifting/conditioning) and competitions (home and away) during their championship season:

Fall Season: Field Hockey, Soccer

Winter Season: Basketball, Women's Ice Hockey

Spring Season: Women's Lacrosse, Softball

An athletic trainer will not be present for "individual" practices or team lifts, scheduled outside the normal full-team practice time. Contact activities should not be conducted during these "individual" practices.

All coaches will be supplied with emergency contact information for the athletic training staff and the campus emergency response system for any incident that may arise during these times.

Contact Sports – Non-Championship Season

The following sports will have on-call coverage of their non-championship season full team practices by an athletic trainer located in the nearest athletic training area during normal athletic training operating hours (e.g. between 10am and 7pm):

Fall/Spring: Basketball, Women's Ice Hockey

Fall: Women's Lacrosse, Softball

Spring: Men's Soccer, Women's Soccer

An athletic trainer will be present at home competitions for the above sports during their non-championship seasons. An athletic trainer will be present at away competitions, when available, for the above sports during their non-championship season.

In the event that a team chooses to conduct regularly scheduled full-team practices outside of normal athletic training operating hours an athletic trainer, based on availability, will be made available to provide coverage.

An athletic trainer will not be available for "individual" practices, scheduled outside the normal full-team practice time. Contact activities should not be conducted during these "individual" practices.

All coaches will be supplied with emergency contact information for the athletic training staff and the campus emergency response system for any incident that may arise during these times.

Non-Contact Sports

Due to the nature and rate of acute injury in the following sports, an athletic trainer will not regularly be present at practices for:

This policy is intended to guide patient care. Medical conditions and specific medical situations are often complex and require health care providers to make independent judgments. These policies may be modified by practitioners to achieve maximal patient outcomes.

Men's Crew, Women's Rowing, Cross Country, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field, Tennis, Golf.

An athletic trainer will be available at home competitions for the following sports:

Cross Country, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field, Tennis

All coaches will be supplied with emergency contact information for the athletic training staff and the campus emergency response system for any incident that may arise during these times.

Changes in Practice Schedule

Changes in schedule due to weather or facility constraints will be accommodated. Other changes to the schedule, with less than one week notice will be dealt with on an individual basis and based on staff availability.

Physician Coverage

A physician will be present or on-call for the home competitions of the following sports:

Basketball, Men's Club and Varsity and Women Varsity Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Rugby

In accordance with the City of Boston's Ordinance Creating a College Athlete Head Injury Gameday Safety Protocol (effective July 1, 2015) an on-site Neurotrauma Consultant will be at the event level of NCAA Division I ice hockey and men's lacrosse events hosted by the University within the City of Boston. The Neurotrauma Consultant shall be a physician who is board certified or board eligible in neurology, neurological surgery, emergency medicine, physical medicine and rehabilitation, or any primary care CAQ sports medicine certified physician that has documented competence and experience in the treatment of acute head injuries. The Neurotrauma Consultant shall be present at the level of the event's playing surface, and with full access to the benches and/or sidelines of any participating athletic program."

In addition, a physician will be present or on-call for all Boston University-hosted championship competitions (Patriot League, National Collegiate Athletic Association, National Invitation Tournament, New England Rugby Football Union, Pioneer Collegiate Lacrosse League, National Intramural Recreational Sports Association)