

PHYSICAL EDUCATION ACTIVITY CLASS RACQUET SPORTS RISKS

SERIOUS, CATASTROPHIC, AND EVEN FATAL INJURY MAY RESULT FROM PARTICIPATION IN ANY SPORT OR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The vast majority of participants in physical education and sport activity participate safely by following certain safety guidelines such as those described in this document.

Fitness and fun are common outcomes in physical activity, but there also is physiological stress on the participant. IF YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL CONDITION WHICH LIMITS YOUR PARTICIPATION, CHECK WITH YOUR PHYSICIAN BEFORE BEGINNING THIS CLASS.

All movement activities contain RISKS FOR THE PARTICIPANT INCLUDING, but not limited to: sprain, fracture, and/or ligament damage; falling or other contact resulting in brain damage; paralysis; even death.

SOME OTHER RISKS SPECIFIC TO, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, **RACQUET SPORTS** AND SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCING THESE RISKS ARE IDENTIFIED HERE:

Cardiovascular risk. Vigorous physical activity places stress on body systems, especially heart and lungs. Begin and continue vigorous activity by following guidelines suggested by the course instructor. If any symptoms of cardiovascular difficulty appear, stop activity immediately and seek appropriate help. Begin your program gradually and increase the work done only gradually.

Injury to head, trunk, and limbs may result from use of sport equipment, facilities, or from contact with another person. Use equipment and the facilities only in the way they are designed to be. Maintain a safe distance from others during all activity. Exhaustion or dehydration. Fatigue is common with vigorous activity. Take appropriate rest breaks and rehydrate as needed. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear for each activity. Be especially careful under hot conditions.

Overuse injuries from repetitious activity. Vary your activities and wear appropriate footwear.

Being struck by racquet, paddle, ball, or shuttlecocks. Eye, head, or other injuries can result from being struck by the ball or from being struck by a racquet, paddle, ball, or shuttlecocks. Be aware of ball position and position of partner and opponents at all times. Maintain a "ready" position throughout play. PROTECTIVE EYEGUARDS ARE MANDATORY FOR THIS CLASS FOLLOW INSTRUCTOR'S DIRECTIONS REGARDING PROPER PLAYING AND SPACING TECHNIQUES.

Collision with other players, with walls or floor of the court. It is important for each play to KNOW WHERE YOU AND YOUR PARTNER AND OPPONENTS ARE in the court. Avoid crowding and colliding with others; give players room to hit the ball, including room for follow-through. Call a "HINDER" if you cannot play a shot safely. ALWAYS BE SURE YOUR WRIST STRAP IS SECURE. BE UNDER CONTROL NEAR WALLS. DO NOT DIVE FOR A BALL NEAR WALLS.

Foot and leg injuries from sudden starts and stops. WARMUP PROPERLY AND WEAR APPROPRIATE COURT SHOES. Do not wear running shoes.

Other conditions and safety procedures. ADHERE TO ANY OTHER WARNINGS AND SAFE PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTION AS GIVEN BY THE INSTRUCTOR DURING THIS COURSE.

Do you have questions about safe play or risks associated with **Racquet Sports**? Ask the course instructor.

NOTE: You must read, sign, and date the "Physical Education Assumption of Risk and Release" for this class and return it to your instructor to: Participate, attend, be given attendance points, and/or remain enrolled in this course.