WHAT TO DO DURING AN ASTHMA ATTACK

- Have the athlete STOP whatever activity he/she is doing. Send another player to get the parent. DO NOT leave the athlete alone.
- 2. Follow the athlete's Asthma Action Plan or emergency plan if there is one.
- 3. If the athlete has a **RESCUE INHALER**, have the athlete use it **IMMEDIATELY**.

Generally, an athlete should:

Take 1 puff, hold breath for 10 seconds and exhale. Wait 1-2 minutes between puffs.

Take another puff, hold breath for 10 seconds and exhale.

Have the athlete sit up and slowly breathe in through the nose and out through pursed lips.

Give sips of room temperature water.

- 4. **REPEAT** above steps if **SYMPTOMS CONTINUE**.
- 5. **ONLY IF** and **WHEN** symptoms are **COMPLETELY** gone can the athlete go back to playing.
- 6. IF **SYMPTOMS REOCCUR** after: <u>DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL 911</u>

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Common Symptoms of an Asthma Attack

- Coughing
- Chest pain or tightness
- > Shortness of or gasping for breath
- Wheezing
- Flushed, pale, ashen or bluish looking skin
- Speaking in clipped or short bursts of speech

CALL 911 IF:

- > YOU are not sure what to do or
- Rescue medications are not working (symptoms are getting worse, not better) or, meds are unavailable – or
- ➤ The athlete's lips or fingernails are blue or
- The athlete is having difficulty talking, walking, or drinking liquids or
- ➤ The athlete's nostrils are flaring out or
- You see neck, throat or chest retractions or
- ➤ The athlete is in obvious distress, there is a change in level of consciousness, or the athlete is showing signs of confusion or
- > The athlete's condition is deteriorating.

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