

### ***1.2.5 Sports Medicine***

Many professional and amateur athletic activities, including contact sports, can put participants at risk of injury. Physicians can provide valuable information to help sports participants, dancers, and others make informed decisions about whether to initiate or continue participating in such activities.

Physicians who serve in a medical capacity at athletic, sporting, or other physically demanding events should protect the health and safety of participants.

In this capacity, physicians should:

- (a) Base their judgment about an individual's participation solely on medical considerations.
- (b) Not allow the desires of spectators, promoters of the event, or even the injured individual to govern a decision about whether to remove the participant from the event.

***AMA Principles of Medical Ethics: I,VII***

*Background report(s):*

CEJA Report 3-A-16 Modernized *Code of Medical Ethics*

Report of the Judicial Council C-A-83 Sports medicine

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***AMA Principles of Medical Ethics: I,VII***

### C. SPORTS MEDICINE

(Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws, page 316)

#### HOUSE ACTION: ADOPTED

Physicians participate in a professional medical capacity at athletic contests, as team physicians and as physicians for individual athletes. The Judicial Council has adopted the following opinion as a guide to responsible professional action for all physicians engaged in any aspect of sports medicine.

#### SPORTS MEDICINE

The rules and conditions governing amateur and professional contact sports such as boxing, football and hockey, and the extent to which the risks of bodily injury shall be acceptable to society, require informed decision-making in which the medical profession has an essential role.

The professional responsibility of the physician who serves in a medical capacity at an athletic contest or sporting event is to protect the health and safety of the contestants. The desire of spectators, promoters of the event or even the injured athlete that he should not be removed from the contest should not be controlling. The physician's judgment should be governed only by medical considerations.

### D. AFFILIATE MEMBERS 1983

#### HOUSE ACTION: ADOPTED

The Judicial Council recommends the following individuals for Affiliate Membership in the American Medical Association:

#### NATIONAL MEDICAL SOCIETIES

John Edward Adam, M. D., Canada  
Aziz Aghdassi, M. D., Iran  
R. Rajeev Chelladurai, M. D., India  
Jacques Claveau, M. D., Canada  
Sherif Doss, M. D., Egypt  
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George F. Golesci, M. D., Canada  
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Stephen A. Morris, M. D., Bangladesh  
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Alva Bowen Weir, III, M. D., Nigeria  
Lester N. Wright, M. D., Zimbabwe

#### DENTISTS

David C. Hoffman, D.D.S., New York  
Morton C. Rivo, D.D.S., California

Terence J. Smith, D.D.S., New Jersey

#### TEACHERS OF MEDICINE OR OF SCIENCES ALLIED TO MEDICINE

Ernst Knobil, Ph. D., Texas  
W. Ann Reynolds, Ph. D., California

J. W. Edward Wortham, Ph. D., Oklahoma