

Safety in
AMERICAN

FOOTBALL

EARL F. HOERNER

Editor

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Safety in American Football

Earl F. Hoerner, editor

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Foreword

The Symposium on Safety in American Football was held in Phoenix, Arizona on 5–7 Dec. 1994. The sponsor of the event was ASTM Committee F-8 on Sports Equipment and Facilities. The symposium chairman was Earl F. Hoerner, and he also served as editor of this publication.

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Overview

Coaches, administrators, health and medical care providers are increasingly challenged to review and evaluate the risks associated with participating and playing in sports, including leisure time and recreational activities.

THE GAME

- What happens?
- Are there risks?
- Can risks be modified or limited?

To meet such challenges, these professionals must continue to examine, review and understand the scientific factors and infrastructure of the physical activity being studied. This information forms the underpinnings and circumstances of risk assessment, which includes within its discipline Epidemiology, Biomechanics, Ergonomics, Human Factors, Kinesiology, Tissue Tolerance, Environmental Studies, Materials, and Lifestyles. These factors represent but a few of the variables that must be considered in Risk Factor Assessment. The process of Risk Factor Assessment also encompasses the area of Biostatistics, utilizing new mechanistic and data distribution approaches to perform the role of assessment in managing risks, and communicating results to decision and policy makers as well as to the general public.

Focusing both on practical as well as integrated approaches, this Symposium Technical Proceeding is prepared to present some of the complex problems in the sport/athletic activity of American Football.

Earl F. Hoerner

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