# 5 Alarming Facts About Athlete Mental Health & Brain Injuries

#### Girls have a higher rate of sports-related concussion than boys in comparable sports.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. \*HEADS UP: Data on Sports and Recreation Activities.\* National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. August 26, 2024. https://www.cdc.gov/heads-up/data/index.html

#### Up to 50% of athletes with concussion experience persistent symptoms beyond 6 months.

University of Glasgow & University of Stirling. \*Study reveals longer term impact of sport-related brain injuries.\* January 29, 2024. <a href="https://www.qla.ac.uk/news/archiveofnews/2024/january/headline">https://www.qla.ac.uk/news/archiveofnews/2024/january/headline</a> 1039515 en.html

### 70% of emergency department visits for sports and recreation-related traumatic brain injuries are among children ages 0–17.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. \*HEADS UP: Data on Sports and Recreation Activities.\* National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. August 26, 2024. https://www.cdc.gov/heads-up/data/index.html

## SafeSport survey: Over 50% of athletes reported depression or anxiety; 22% reported suicidal thoughts.

U.S. Center for SafeSport. \*Athlete Well-Being Survey Report.\* 2022. https://uscenterforsafesport.org/

One in three elite athletes experience mental health symptoms during their career.

Reardon, C.L., & Factor, R.M. \*BMJ Open Sport & Exercise Medicine.\* 2019;5(1):e000585. Published December 19, 2019. https://bism.bmi.com/content/54/4/216

