SAINT JOSEPH’S UNIVERSITY MRSA PROTOCOL FOR STUDENT ATHLETES/RETURN TO PLAY

- Student athlete will report to sports medicine staff with any signs/symptoms of MRSA.
- Student athlete will be referred to Student Health Center or other health care provider for evaluation, testing and treatment.
- The student athlete must be cleared for return to play by a healthcare provider.

RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL

- If sport-specific rules do not exist, in general, athletes should be excluded if wounds cannot be properly covered during participation.
- The term “properly covered” means that the skin infection is covered by a securely attached bandage or dressing that will contain all drainage and will remain intact throughout the activity. If wounds can be properly covered, good hygiene measures should be stressed to the athlete such as performing hand hygiene before and after changing bandages and throwing used bandages in the trash.
- A healthcare provider might exclude an athlete if the activity poses a risk to the health of the infected athlete (such as an injury to the infected area), even though the infection can be covered properly.
- Athletes with active infections or open wounds should not use whirlpools or therapy pools not cleaned between athletes and other common-use water facilities like swimming pools until infections and wounds are healed.