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Top 10 Most Preventable Injuries in Youth Sports

- 1. Heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
- 2. Lightning-related injury or death.
- 3. Fatalities and injuries from falling soccer goals.
- 4. Injuries caused by failure to wear proper **safety equipment**, such as helmets, pads or mouthguards.
- 5. Returning to play after an injury before being cleared by a doctor.
- 6. Team travel accidents, especially those caused by 15-passenger vans.
- 7. Severe cuts or burns to kids working concession stands.
- 8. Injuries resulting from improper or inadequate training for sliding, tackling or checking.
- 9. **Overuse injuries** from year-round sports, from early specialization and from playing on multiple teams during a season.
- 10. Playing beyond the athlete's or team's **developmental ability** such as playing "up" with older, bigger players, or allowing contact at too young an age.