Case Study: Sports Tuition Expense Protection (STEP)

Understanding the power of sports tuition expense protection.

The costs of participating in team sports – from youth sports to adult leagues – have skyrocketed. In most cases, the teams and leagues rely on pre-paid, nonrefundable tuition and fees to meet their own significant budgets to pay for coaches, referees, facility rentals, insurance and more. Often, families will pay the costs of playing time lost due to injury/sickness of the participant or close family member, or if the family relocates due to job change. How can families protect themselves against this financial burden?

By taking the right first STEP: Sports Tuition Expense Protection.

Ice Hockey Hiatus

John Smith, age 14, plays travel ice hockey for the New Jersey Hawks.

- The Hawks’ activity fee for the hockey season is $6,000.

The Hawks’ organization participated in the STEP program to protect the pre-paid, nonrefundable covered activity fees paid by its athletes.

- The premium for this coverage is $240.

On October 14, John contracted pneumonia, and due to the severity of his condition, his physician recommended that John needed to withdraw from playing until he was well enough to play. As a result, John missed one month of his hockey season.

The Smiths were able to receive $840 in benefits from the insurance policy as reimbursement for their lost pre-paid, nonrefundable covered activity fee.

The claim calculation looks like this:

There are 212 days in the Hawks’ hockey season (August 20 – March 20 = 212 days).

$6,000 (activity fee) ÷ 212 days = $28 (day rate).

John missed 30 days of his hockey season.

There are 30 days eligible for benefits x $28 (day rate) = $840 benefit amount.

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Rebel Sitting Out With a Cause
Alexis Jones, age 16, plays travel ice hockey for the New Hampshire Rebels.
- The Rebels’ activity fee for the hockey season is $8,000.
The Rebels participated in the STEP program to protect the pre-paid, nonrefundable covered activity fees paid by its athletes.
- The premium for this coverage is $232.
On September 22, Alexis was injured during a game and suffered a broken wrist. Due to the severity of her injury, her physician recommended that Alexis withdraw from playing until her physician deemed her wrist healed enough to play. Unfortunately, Alexis missed eight weeks of her hockey season due to her wrist injury. The STEP policy covered activity interruption benefit provided a reimbursement benefit amount of $2,128 to the Joneses.

Rocketing Away from His League
Aidan Johnson, age 12, plays travel ice hockey for the Washington Rockets.
- The Rockets’ activity fee for the hockey season $5,000.
The Rockets participated in the STEP program to protect the pre-paid, nonrefundable covered activity fees paid by its athletes.
- The premium for this coverage is $140.
On January 5, Mr. Johnson’s company relocated him to New York, which was more than 100 miles from their current residence. Unfortunately, Aidan would no longer be able to play for the Rockets as his family would need to move to New York. Aidan would miss the remainder of the hockey season.
The Johnsons submitted a claim under the STEP policy and received a reimbursement benefit amount of $1,776.

Building a Better Team, Together
NFP’s Sports and Entertainment specialists work closely with top insurance carriers on your behalf to help better protect what you and the athletes, entertainers and supporters in your life have worked so hard to achieve.

We’re committed to helping you better understand your risks and exposures so we can guide you through strategies and solutions to keep you protected.

Scenarios described are based on hypothetical facts, provided for illustrative purposes only and are not based on real claims adjudicated.

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