



OhioHealth Sports Medicine for Student Athletes

Hydration Tips

Hydration: The body is over 60% water. Losing even a small amount of that fluid, 2% of body weight, can result in dehydration. This can increase effort, heart rate and risk of overheating. It can also impair performance and cause fatigue. Monitoring urine color is an easy way to assess hydration status; it should be pale yellow.

Before Activity

2-3 hours before	16-24 oz. of fluids + Water + Non-fat milk + 100% fruit juice + Sports drink
20 minutes before	5-10 oz. (each gulp is about an ounce) + Water + Sports drink

During Activity

If it is hot and humid, fluid needs to be increased.	
Every 15-20 minutes	4-8 oz. - water is fine
More than 60 minutes	1-8 oz. every 15-20 minutes + Water and a salty snack like pretzels + Sports drink

After Activity

How much did you lose?	For every pound of body weight lost during exercise, consume 16-24 oz. of fluid.
Monitor urine color.	+ Chocolate milk, low-fat + Water + Broth or vegetable juice for sodium replacement + Low-calorie electrolyte drink

Best choice: Hydrate with water daily, both on and off the field.

Other options:

- + **Low-fat milk** provides carbohydrates, electrolytes, protein, calcium, and Vitamin D. It is best with three servings of calcium rich foods each day.
- + **Sports drinks** are a good option when practicing or competing at a high intensity for longer than an hour. They contain carbohydrates and electrolytes to provide energy and promote hydration. They are especially important during hot, humid conditions when athletes are losing significant amounts of fluids.
- + **100% juice** in a small portion of 4-6 ounces once a day. The best time for juice is with a meal or snack, but not during exercise as it can cause stomach and gastrointestinal upset. For athletes watching their weight, fruits and water would be a better hydration options.

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To learn more about OhioHealth Sports Medicine, call (614) 566-GAME (4263) or visit OhioHealth.com/SportsMedicine.

We offer same-day appointments for injured athletes.

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