# AFL Players Concealing Concussions Risking Contracts, Reveals AFLPA Report



Several Australian Football League (AFL) players are concealing concussions to avoid being sidelined, potentially putting their contracts at risk, according to the 2023 AFL Players Association (AFLPA) Insights & Impact Report. The report shows that 71% of players are worried about concussions, with 24% of 179 surveyed players having experienced a concussion. Among those, 12% did not report their symptoms.

Geelong Cats star Jeremy Cameron's recent head injury and delayed symptom reporting have reignited the debate on concussion management. Cameron continued to play after an on-field assessment but later entered concussion protocols.

AFLPA chief Paul Marsh emphasized the urgent need for improved safety measures and support for affected players, citing the growing concussion issues' long-term health implications.

The AFL faces growing scrutiny over its concussion regulations, with former Hawthorn player Shane Tuck’s death prompting recommendations for independent doctors at matches. However, AFL CEO Andrew Dillon defended club doctors' roles, suggesting a possible shift away from this recommendation.

The league's challenges include a class action against the AFL led by former Geelong player Max Rooke, addressing concussions' severe impacts on players.