

**STANDARD PERFORMANCE
SPECIFICATION FOR
RECERTIFIED BASEBALL-SOFTBALL
BATTERS AND CATCHERS HELMETS**

NOCSAE DOC (ND) 026 – 24

Prepared By

NOCSAE[®]

**NATIONAL OPERATING COMMITTEE
ON STANDARDS FOR ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT**

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1. Scope

- 1.1 This standard specification establishes performance requirements for the recertification of baseball-softball batter's helmets with or without faceguards and catcher's helmets with attached faceguards.
- 1.2 **All testing and requirements of this standard specification must be in accordance with NOCSAE DOC 001 except where modified herein.**
- 1.3 Firms may recertify only those helmets/combinations that have been previously certified to NOCSAE.
- 1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 NOCSAE DOC (ND) 001: *Standard Test Method and Equipment Used in Evaluating the Performance Characteristics of Headgear/Equipment*
- 2.2 NOCSAE DOC (ND) 022: *Standard Performance Specification for Newly Manufactured Baseball/Softball Batter's Helmets*
- 2.3 NOCSAE DOC (ND) 024: *Standard Performance Specification for Newly Manufactured Baseball/Softball Catcher's Helmets with Faceguard*
- 2.4 NOCSAE DOC (ND) 072: *Standard Performance Specification for Newly Manufactured Baseball/Softball Batter's Helmet Mounted Faceguard*

3. Helmet Preparation

- 3.1 Helmets used for testing must be selected in a random manner.
- 3.2 Faceguard – Catchers helmets must be tested with faceguards attached. Batters helmets may be tested with faceguards attached.
 - 3.2.1 Recertifiers shall verify that the faceguards on catchers helmets are attached properly according to the manufacturer's instructions and are intended for the helmet they are attached to. All faceguards that are attached to catcher's helmets must be visually inspected for damage.
 - 3.2.2 Recertifiers shall verify that the faceguards on batters helmets are attached properly according to the manufacturer's instructions and bear the NOCSAE mark. If the mark is present and a visual inspection of the guard indicates no damage the unit may be recertified. If no mark is present or the faceguard is damaged the faceguard must be removed before the helmet can be recertified.

- 3.3 Helmets must be tested before reconditioning as received from the field. The same helmets must be tested after all processing and in the condition in which they are to be returned to use. A statistical sample must be tested. Participation in an industry wide data collection and sharing system which facilitates the collection of a statistical sample is acceptable. This section should not be construed in any way as overriding Section 3.2 above.

4. Conditioning Environments

- 4.1 Ambient Temperature: Expose headgear/equipment to testing environment for a minimum of four hours.
- 4.2 Testing Environment: The tests must be performed in an environment with a temperature of 72 °F ± 5 °F (22 °C ± 2 °C). Always monitor laboratory conditions (temperature and humidity) prior to testing and at periodic intervals during testing.

5. Impact Attenuation Tests

- 5.1 The ½” Test MEP is used as the impact surface for recertification tests.
- 5.2 Impact locations are described in Section 19, NOCSAE DOC 001.
- 5.3 Each submitted sample helmet shall be impacted in the side position and in one other location in accordance with Table 1 below and as depicted in Figure 1.

TABLE 1
Drop Test Impact Schedule
Velocity – ft/s (m/s) +3% -0%

Conditioning Environment	RIGHT SIDE	REAR BOSS	REAR
Ambient	13.89 (4.23)	13.89 (4.23)	13.89 (4.23)

6. Test Requirements for Recertification

- 6.1 Helmet configuration must be the same as originally certified.
- 6.2 All components must function as originally certified.
- 6.3 Helmet shells must be free from cracks (as defined in NOCSAE DOC 001, Section 3).
- 6.4 The peak severity index of any impact shall not exceed 1200 SI.
- 6.5 Helmet repositioning during testing is anticipated. Any structural changes or other changes that take place during impact testing which result in un-restorable, loosening of the fit (see Section 20, NOCSAE DOC 001) shall be cause for failure.

- 6.6 A passing helmet is able to withstand all impacts at an acceptable SI and meets all other requirements when tested in accordance with this performance specification.
- 6.7 When helmets are recertified and returned with faceguards attached, the helmet recertifier must verify that the faceguard was originally certified and has been either recertified or at a minimum inspected to determine that it is free of cracks (including welds) and have no exposed metal or sharp corners. Metallic (i.e., wire or metallic tubing) faceguards must have a surface coating of resilient material, designed to reduce the risk of chipping, burrs, and the like that may result in increased risk of injury to the user or opponent. Helmet recertifiers that mount certified/inspected faceguards with non-OEM hardware must demonstrate that the helmet/hardware faceguard combination meets the requirements of the applicable NOCSAE faceguard standard. Damaged faceguards shall not be recertified or returned to play. Faceguards must be labeled in accordance with the requirements of ND024 for catchers helmets or ND072 for batters helmets.

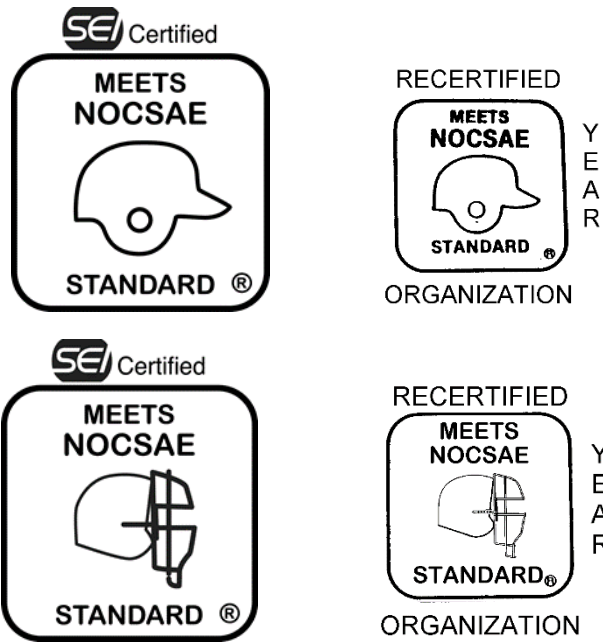
7 Labels and Warnings

- 7.1 Each headgear/equipment shall be permanently and legibly labeled or marked in a manner such that the following information can be easily read and is not obscured in any manner.
- 7.1.1 Name of Manufacturer
 - 7.1.2 Model Designation
 - 7.1.3 Size
- 7.2 Each headgear/equipment shall be permanently and legibly labeled or marked in a manner such that the following additional information can be easily read without removing any permanent component. The following labels shall contain a signal word which shall not be obscured in any manner:
- 7.2.1 A label that warns the user that no headgear can protect against all possible impacts and the headgear/equipment must be fitted and attached properly to the wearer's head in accordance with the manufacturer's fitting instructions.
 - 7.2.2 A label that warns the user that the headgear/equipment can be damaged by accidental, incidental, or intentional contact with common substances (for example, certain solvents, cleaners, hair treatments, etc.) and that this damage may or may not be visible to the user. This label should also list any recommended cleaning agents or procedures, or both.
 - 7.2.3 Warnings: Each headgear/equipment shall have appropriate warning information as called for in the appropriate NOCSAE performance specifications.

7.3 A permanent and legible label or mark that denotes the month and year of manufacture that can be easily read without removing any permanent component. If this mark or label requires a “code” to determine month and year, such code shall be made available upon request.

7.3.1 A label that denotes the first intended season of use may be used.

7.4 A permanent replica of one of the marks shown below must appear on the exterior of the headgear. If the original “SEI Certified” NOCSAE mark is not clearly legible, then the “Recertified” mark shall be applied.



If the “recertified” mark needs to be added, the “YEAR” data must be given and it shall reflect the year of the particular reconditioning season (e.g., 2020) that the helmet is being recertified. The “ORGANIZATION” information is optional; examples might be the name of the recertifier’s organization or his company (e.g., NAERA or XYZ Reconditioning).

- 7.5 Each helmet shall have permanently affixed to the exterior of the shell a clearly legible statement which can be easily read without removal of any decal tape, other temporary material or permanent component, which contains language which effectively communicates to the purchaser and user the following information using the same or similar language:

WARNING:

DO NOT USE THIS HELMET IF THE SHELL IS CRACKED OR DEFORMED, OR IF THE INTERIOR PADDING IS DETERIORATED. SEVERE HEAD OR NECK INJURY, INCLUDING PARALYSIS OR DEATH MAY OCCUR TO YOU DESPITE USING THIS HELMET. NO HELMET CAN PREVENT ALL HEAD INJURIES OR ANY NECK INJURIES A PLAYER MIGHT RECEIVE WHILE PARTICIPATING IN BASEBALL OR SOFTBALL.

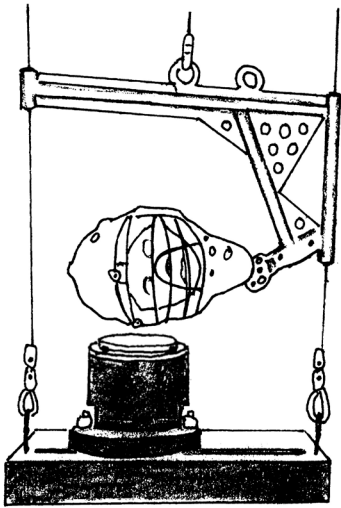
- 7.6 Recertified helmets must have a recertification mark that includes the name of the recertifying firm and the year of recertification. This mark may be placed on the interior or exterior of the shell in an area in which it can be easily read without removal of any permanent component and will also contain the following language:

"This helmet has been recertified according to procedures established to meet the NOCSAE Standard."

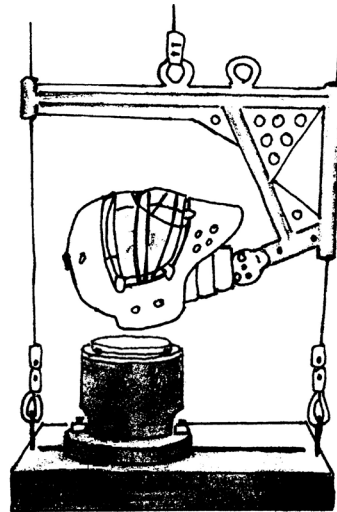
- 7.7 Batters guards shall have the appropriate labels, warnings and attachments as required in NOCSAE DOC 072 section 7.

This standard is subject to revision at any time by the responsible technical authority and must be reviewed every five years and if not revised either reapproved or withdrawn. Your comments are invited either for revision, modification or creation of additional standards and should be addressed to NOCSAE's Executive Director. Check the web at www.nocsa.org to obtain the latest version of a standard.

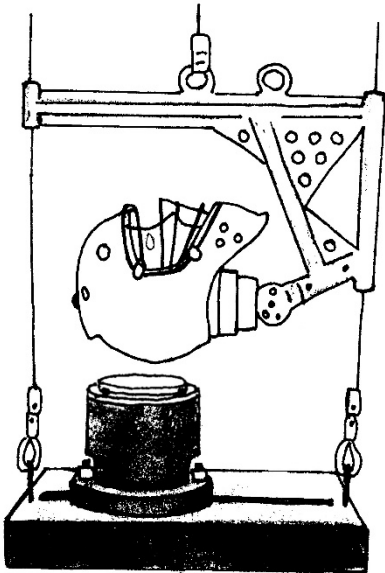
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Right Side Impact



Rear Boss Impact



Rear Impact

Figure 1

JUNE 2004 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Added section 5.3
- Added the word “helmets” in the scope

DECEMBER 2004 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Modified section 3.3 to clarify helmets tested.

MARCH 2007 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Modified section 5 to clarify impact surface.
- Modified figure 1 to illustrate impact surface.

JANUARY 2008 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Corrected typographical error in section 7.

FEBRUARY 2010 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Changed Warning statement to be consistent with baseball –softball standard

FEBRUARY 2011 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- REVISION: Change drop heights to drop velocities. Clarified attachment of component requirement. Moved test requirements to section 6.

MAY 2012 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Modified section 3.3 for clarity.

OCTOBER 2014 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Updated title name of NOCSAE DOC. 001
- Added SEI Certification NOCSAE Logo to Section 7, “Labels and Warnings”
- Added language to Section 6.7 on faceguard labeling requirements for clarity

MARCH 2015 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Added reference standard ND072

JUNE 2015 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- Updated NOCSAE seal/logo artwork

JANUARY 2024 MODIFICATIONS/REVISIONS

- REVISION: Updated exterior warning label language to match ND022 and ND024
- Replaced references to ND001 Section 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 10, 12.1, and 12.3 with the referenced language
- Removed Manufacturer Certifies NOCSAE logo
- General formatting updates
- Updated references throughout