

Association
canadienne
de crosse



Canadian
Lacrosse
Association

CLA Helmet and Facemask Standards for the 2009 season

The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) is currently working with the CSA to set a standard for lacrosse facemasks. These CSA standards are proposed to be in place by the 2010 season. CSA is a Canadian Standards Association that approves sporting equipment to a certain Standard to make sure they are safe to participate in a certain sport.

The CLA Equipment Review Committee shall post on the CLA website any and all changes to the Helmet and Facemask standards review the CLA Technical Bulletins section.



1. OTNY Jr. and Intermediate: do give access to a player's airway without the entire helmet being removed based on CSA standards regarding access to airways in relation to CSA hockey helmets and facemask combinations. Field Lacrosse helmets fall under NOCSAE which is a different standard.



2. CSA approved mask for Ice Hockey

do give access to a player's airway without the entire helmet being removed based on CSA standards regarding access to airways in relation to CSA hockey helmets and facemask combinations. Field Lacrosse helmets fall under NOCSAE which is a different standard.



3. OTNY 20/20 Sr. Professional Style Face Mask and O'Neil masks.

January 1, 2007 Chuck Miller CLA Chair – Equipment Review Committee

At the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Lacrosse Association the equipment review committee chairperson discussed the use of the OTNY Sr. and O'Neil masks.

Because of their design, the OTNY 20/20 Sr. Mask and O'Neil masks do not give access to a players airway

without the entire helmet being removed, it **WILL NOT** be permitted to be used in minor lacrosse – defined as midget age players and below. For this same reason, these masks **ARE NOT RECOMMENDED** for players up to the age of 21, but are allowed for play in age categories above Midget.

4. CSA approved Hockey Helmet for Ice Hockey



To put figure 1 on to this Hockey Helmet it has to be hinged and fit under the chin. This mask when undone will hinge up allowing you to get to the airways. At this time lacrosse does not have a CSA approve Helmet and mask combination.

To put figure 2 on this helmet it meets CSA approval and will hinge and will allow access to the airways if mounted correctly. This is approved for ice hockey and is CSA approved.

Lacrosse is trying to obtain approval on figure 1 and figure 3 and having them CSA approved. At this time lacrosse does not have a CSA approve Helmet and mask combination.

Continued

5. N.O.C.S.A.E. Approval Lacrosse Helmets and facemasks

N.O.C.S.A.E. approval is an American Standards that approves sporting equipment to make sure they are safe for participants to wear to keep them safe while participating in a certain sport. N.O.C.S.A.E. APPROVED LACROSSE HELMETS AND FACEMASK COMBINATIONS CAN BE WORN IN BOTH THE Field and Box Sector.



CLA Operations Manual Issued June 2008

12. SECTION 12: Safety and Equipment

12.4. Helmets

12.4.1. For Box and Men's Field Lacrosse, all players are required to wear a helmet which must meet either of the following standards:

12.4.1.1. A helmet with facial protector approved as a complete unit by National Organizing Committee for Safety in Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) for lacrosse.

12.4.1.2. A helmet that is Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved for Ice Hockey. An approved facemask as stated under Facial Protection in this Section must be attached.

12.4.1.2.1. These standards establish certain mandatory requirements for helmets in the following areas

12.4.1.2.1.1. materials used in fabrication;

12.4.1.2.1.2. assembly, design and finish;

12.4.1.2.1.3. helmet size and area of head coverage;

12.4.1.2.1.4. impact resistance;

12.4.1.2.1.5. penetration resistance;

12.4.1.2.1.6. strength and durability;

12.4.1.2.1.7. labels, tags and markings;

12.4.1.2.1.8. chin strap that can be properly fastened

12.4.1.3. Lacrosse is a sport with intrinsic hazards and participation in the sport implies the acceptance of some risk of injury. When used as intended for lacrosse and in accordance with the manufacturer's fitting instructions, the use of the helmet certified under these standards is intended to reduce the frequency and severity of head injuries.

12.5. Facial Protection

12.5.1. For Box Lacrosse and Men's Field Lacrosse, all players are required to wear a facemask firmly affixed to the helmet which must meet all of the following guidelines:

12.5.1.1. The facemask must be approved under the CSA standard for Ice Hockey or under the NOCSAE standard for Lacrosse.

12.5.1.1.1. A NOCSAE approved facemask can be used with a CSA approved helmet provided attaching the facemask to the helmet does not alter the helmet in anyway which would void the CSA approval

12.5.1.2. The facemask shall be designed to cover the wearer's entire face to the lower line of the jaw, and prevent the ball or the head of the stick from touching the face of the wearer.

12.5.1.3. The facemask must be finished so that it does not create a risk of injury to the wearer or another person when it is used as it is intended.

12.5.1.4. These standards establish mandatory requirements for facemasks in the following areas:

12.5.1.4.1. Identification that states the model number;

12.5.1.4.2. CSA or NOCSAE Approval on the mask;

12.5.1.4.3. A chin cup protector (that protects the chin);

12.5.1.4.4. A two or four point strap configuration that would allow the user to fasten the mask to the helmet;

12.5.1.4.5. Name of Manufacturer;

12.5.1.4.6. Year or date of manufacture;

12.5.1.4.7. Junior or Senior mask;

12.5.1.4.8. To be approved, a label must be attached to the mask and remain attached. The information must be easily visible to officials at all times.