

BRAMHALL CRICKET CLUB



ECB AND PCA GUIDANCE FOR HELMETS

The ECB and PCA strongly encourage all cricket clubs and cricketers to review their existing head protector equipment. In this Guidance Note, references to “head protectors” means helmets with a faceguard or grille.

The design and manufacture of cricket head protectors is now governed by British Standard **BS7928:2013**, which has been adopted by the ICC as the international standard. The standard ECB/PCA playing contract for professional cricketers also specifies that any helmet provided to a player by his employer club must meet this safety standard.

Note that **BS7928:2013** specifies different tests for helmets to be used in senior and junior cricket, reflecting the smaller ball size used in the latter.

The helmets listed below are those for which evidence has been provided to the ECB by the relevant manufacturer that the standard has been met and the appropriate authority to display a “CE quality mark” granted.

That list distinguishes between helmets which are approved for use in senior and junior cricket, and also includes some helmets which have been approved for use at both levels.

1. Key Features of the New Safety Specification

The key features of the new specification, **BS7928:2013**, are:

- it now includes a facial contact projectile test that assesses for penetration of the ball through the faceguard, and contact of the faceguard onto the face, using realistic ball impact speeds and conditions.
- head protectors have been tested separately against men’s and junior sized cricket balls (a five-and-a-half ounce ball and a four-and-three-quarter ounce ball, respectively).

2. Women’s cricket

There was neither a pre-existing specific women’s head protector nor is there any BSi specification for women’s cricket head protectors.

However, as the size of the standard women’s cricket ball is between the standard men’s and junior’s balls, it is recommended that women use head protectors which have been tested against both the

men's and junior sized ball or at least against the junior size ball (because the smaller ball could potentially get through the gap above the faceguard on a men's head protector).

3. Junior cricket

Since 2000, the ECB has published safety guidance regarding the wearing of head protectors by all cricketers under the age of 18. The ECB's current guidance is that all cricketers under the age of 18 must wear a head protector whilst batting in matches or practice sessions. The ECB also now strongly recommends that junior players use head protectors which have been tested against the junior sized ball.

Wicketkeepers under the age of 18 should wear a head protector with a faceguard, or a wicketkeeper face protector, at all times when standing up to the stumps.

Any individual taking responsibility for any player(s) under the age of 18 should take reasonable steps to ensure this guidance is followed at all times. No parental consent to the non-wearing of a head protector should be accepted.

4. Risk of injury

Whilst the ECB and PCA consider that head protectors are an essential part of a cricketer's kit to mitigate the risk of death, injury or disability, it must be remembered that wearing a head protector cannot entirely eliminate that risk. The new specification makes head protectors safer than before, but cannot eliminate the risk of injury.

5. Things to look out for in purchasing a new head protector

The ECB and PCA has issued this guidance in order to heighten understanding, so that informed decisions as to which head protectors to purchase and use can be made by all cricketers.

Head protectors that have been tested against and comply with the new specification will be clearly labelled "**BS7928:2013**" and will contain clear labelling setting out whether the head protector has been tested against

- (i) a men's standard ball size of 5 ½ ounces,
- (ii) a junior standard ball size of 4 ¾ ounces, or
- (iii) both men's and junior size balls.

The list of known head protectors that have met BS7928:13 as of 12 July 2016

Tested against men's balls:

August 2016

Ayrtek

Premier Tek with Steel faceguard

Gray-Nicolls

Atomic Helmet

Test Opener Helmet

Omega XRD

Gunn & Moore

Icon Geo Senior Large

Icon Geo Senior

Icon Geo Senior Small

Purist Geo Senior Large

Purist Geo Senior

Zona Geo Senior Large

Zona Geo Senior

Zona Geo Senior Small

Incredible Cricket Company

Xero Senior

Xero Junior

Kookaburra

Pro 400 Senior

Viper Senior

Pro 800 Senior

Masuri

Legacy Series Senior

Vison Series Elite Titanium

Vision Series Elite Steel

Vision Series Test Titanium

Vision Series Test Steel

Vision Series Club Senior

Reader

Sovereign Senior

Shrey

Master Class AIR Titanium

Pro Guard AIR Titanium

Master Class AIR Stainless Steel

Pro Guard AIR Stainless Steel

August 2016

Armor Senior Steel
Performance Senior Steel

Slazenger

International (senior)

Yonker

Protech senior
Protech junior
Matrix senior
Matrix junior

Tested against both men's and junior balls:

Gray-Nicolls

Atomic Helmet
Test Opener Helmet
Omega XRD Helmet

Gunn & Moore

Icon Geo Senior
Icon Geo Senior Small
Purist Geo Senior
Zona Geo Senior
Zona Geo Senior Small

Incredible Cricket Company

Xero Junior

Masuri

Vision Series Elite Titanium
Vision Series Elite Steel
Vision Series Test Titanium
Vision Series Test Steel

Shrey

Armor Senior Steel
Armor Junior/Youth Steel
Performance Senior Steel
Performance Junior/Youth Steel

Yonker

Protech junior

Matrix junior

Tested against junior balls:**Gray-Nicolls**

Atomic Helmet

Test Opener Helmet

Omega XRD Helmet

Gunn & Moore

Icon Geo Senior

Icon Geo Senior Small

Icon Geo Junior

Purist Geo Senior

Purist Geo Junior

Purist Geo Junior Small

Zona Geo Senior

Zona Geo Senior Small

Zona Geo Junior

Incredible Cricket Company

Xero Junior

Kookaburra

Pro 400 Junior

Pro 400 Mini

Pro 800 Junior

Viper Junior

Masuri

Legacy Series Junior

Vision Series Elite Titanium

Vision Series Elite Steel

Vision Series Test Titanium

Vision Series Test Steel

Vision Series Club Boys

Vision Series Club Youths

Reader

Sovereign Junior

Sovereign Mini

August 2016

Shrey

Armor Senior Steel

Armor Junior/Youth Steel

Performance Senior Steel

Performance Junior/Youth Steel

Slazenger

International (junior)

Yonker

Protech junior

Matrix junior

When a new helmet meets the BS7928:2013 standard, and are certified (CE) to be in conformity with Council Directive 89/686/EEC and associated amendments relating to personal protective equipment, manufacturers are asked to provide documentary evidence of this compliance to helmets@ecb.co.uk, so that the helmet can be added to the list.

Please read our helmets FAQs (PDF 29kb) if you have further questions, and download the poster (PDF 106kb) for use at your club.