



May 22, 2018

Patrick Wilson
Senior Vice President
Little League Baseball and Softball
539 US Highway 15
Williamsport PA 17701-0485

RE: Use of batting face protectors on baseball helmets.

Mr. Wilson:

This is in response to your request from Boombah as a helmet manufacturer to questions about the use of cheek flaps or "C flaps" on batting helmets and how that affects the NOCSAE certification of those helmets. We appreciate your concern for player safety and we share that concern.

Our position is as follows:

As of the date of this letter, there is no NOCSAE standard for these cheek flaps other than as an accessory as set forth in NOCSAE ND001 7.1:

Headgear is worn on the head in an effort to reduce or minimize injury to that portion of the head which is within the specified area of coverage, and shall be constructed to reduce the risk of injury to the wearer's head, and to remain on the wearer's head, during impact. **Optional devices fitted to the headgear/equipment shall be designed so that they are unlikely to cause injury during use.** For example: wire face protectors must not be designed with weld junctions and/or wire terminus ends in the ocular area, such that in the event of a weld separation, the wire ends could come into contact with the ocular area.

Boombah has specifically engineered the Boombah cheek flap to fit on the Boombah DEFCON® helmet. The holes predrilled for a chin strap on the DEFCON® helmets are useable for the Boombah cheek flaps: product codes beginning BDFG. This protects the integrity of the helmet. In addition, it makes them "unlikely to cause any injury during use" in compliance with the NOCSAE standard above.

Use of the Boombah BDFG cheek flap with any helmet other than the DEFCON® helmets, or use of a non-Boombah cheek flap on a Boombah helmet, is strongly discouraged. Use of any adhesive or drilling any additional holes in any helmet is very detrimental to the integrity of that helmet, and will likely violate NOCSAE standards and the manufacturer's warranty for that helmet.

Given that NOCSAE considers the addition of the cheek flap to make this helmet "not identical", we will test our DEFCON® helmets again with the cheek flap attached. Since NOCSAE does not have a cheek flap standard, this will mean testing the helmets again to the same helmet standards they have already passed.

For all of the reasons stated above, Boombah is choosing to NOT void our NOCSAE certification as allowed by the NOCSAE release you quoted. As previously stated, we will do additional testing of the helmets with the cheek flap attached. If in the future, NOCSAE develops standards for cheek flaps, we will also test to those standards.

We have already received customer feedback on the benefits of using the Boombah BDFG flap. It would be a shame to deny your players that extra protection.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Schlichting", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Julie Schlichting
General Counsel
Julie.schlichting@boombah.com