



Technical Bulletin 11-06

Helmet and Facemask Requirements for 2012 and 2013

Due to the delay in being given notice by CSA of there being approved lacrosse facemasks that meet CSA standards;

And upon concluding that this notice cannot provide for all lacrosse players to acquire CSA approved lacrosse facemasks but that the notice is sufficient to supply players 16 years and under with CSA approved lacrosse facemasks;

The Canadian Lacrosse Association (CLA) issues the following directives with regard to helmet and facemask requirements:

FOR PLAYERS 17 YEARS AND OVER:

Players aged 17 years and over, as defined by CLA policy 18.2.1.3* for box and 19.4.1.3** for field, are not required to use a CSA approved facemask for lacrosse until **January 1, 2013**. Until then players 17 years and over are permitted to use NOSCAE approved facemasks with a CSA approved helmet, provided attaching the facemask to the helmet does not alter the helmet in any way which would void the CSA approval. This means that helmet and facemask configurations that were legal as per CLA policy and used in the 2011 season may continue to be used in the 2012 season.

Refer to CLA Technical Bulletin 11-05 for instructions on what qualifies as a legal helmet, facemask and chin cup configuration:

http://cla.pointstreaksites.com/files/uploaded_documents/357/Tech_Bulletin_11-05_Legal_vs_Illegal_Helmets_v.3_FINAL.pdf

The CLA warns all players 17 years and over about the potential risks of using non CSA approved facemasks and strongly recommends that players 17 years and over use CSA approved lacrosse facemasks where they are available. The CLA informs players 17 years and over who do not use CSA approved facemasks that they are assuming any and all risks associated with the use of non CSA approved facemasks.

FOR PLAYERS 16 YEARS AND UNDER:

The above exception shall **NOT** apply to players aged 16 years and under, as defined by CLA policy 18.2.1.3* for box and 19.4.1.3** for field. Such players must comply with CLA policy 12.4 as of **January 1, 2012**.

12.4. Helmets & Facemasks

12.4.1. 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.

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

12.4.2.1. A National Organizing Committee for Safety in Athletic Equipment (NOSCAE) approved helmet and facial protector, approved as a complete unit, for lacrosse.

12.4.2.2. A Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved for Ice Hockey helmet with the appropriate CSA approved facemask for lacrosse.

12.4.2.3. A Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved for Ice Hockey helmet with the appropriate CSA approved facemask for hockey with the following exceptions:

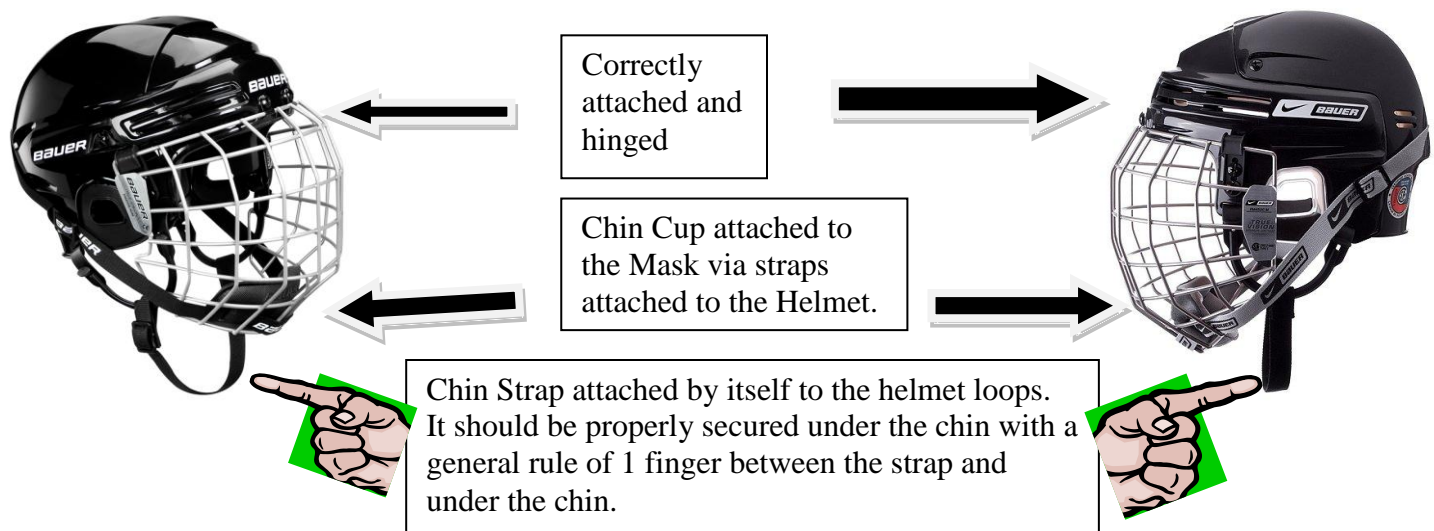
12.4.2.3.1. The facemask shall be designed to cover the wearer's entire face to the lower line of the jaw, and prevent the ball or the head of the stick from touching the face of the wearer.

12.4.2.3.2. 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.

Example of a NOSCAE approved helmet:



The following picture represents an example of a legal helmet based on CSA standards for Hockey:





There are currently four (4) CSA approved lacrosse facemasks on the sporting goods market and these are noted on the page below.

Equipment which violates the directives contained in this bulletin will be removed from the game and, where required, appropriate penalties will be given.

Should you have any questions in regard to this bulletin, please contact the CLA Office at info1@lacrosse.ca or at 613-260-2028.

*CLA Policy 18.2.1.3: Age is determined to be the age of a player that he or she is or will be in the calendar year of the current playing season. For example, for play anytime from January 1 and December 31, 2006 inclusive, the calendar year is 2006. If a player turns 22 years old in 2006, he/she is ineligible to play Junior in 2006.

**CLA Policy 19.4.1.3: Age is determined to be the age of a player that he or she is or will be in the calendar year of the current playing season. For example, for play anytime from January 1 and December 31, 2006 inclusive, the calendar year is 2006. If a player turns 20 years old in 2006, he is ineligible to play Junior in 2006.

2012 CSA Approved Lacrosse Facemasks

Gait Box Senior Lacrosse Mask



OTNY Intermediate/Senior Lacrosse Cage Kit



Gait Box Junior Lacrosse Mask



OTNY Junior Lacrosse Cage Kit



**Visit your local lacrosse retailer for recommended
facemask/helmet fitting tips**