



Oregon School Activities Association
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TO: Athletic Directors and Baseball Coaches

FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT: NOCSAE Chest Protector New Rule NFHS Rule 1-5-3

As we have been informing schools since the 2017 school year the baseball chest protector (Rule 1-5-3) is now in effect for the 2019-20 baseball season. With the addition of this new rule on baseball catcher's gear, every school and every baseball team at each school needs to have the NOCSAE stamp (see the logo below) on their catcher's chest protector in order for the game to be played. Coaches are responsible for knowing whether their catcher's chest/body protector equipment meets the rule and must affirm that fact with the umpire-in-chief prior to the start of the ball game.

There are three options that would meet Rule 1-5-3 and must have the MEETS NOCSAE STANDARD stamp (see below) :

- 1) A new traditional chest protector that protects the heart/cardiac silhouette and meets the NOCSAE performance standard
- 2) A body protector (compression shirt with heart guard built into the shirt) that that protects the heart/cardiac silhouette and meets the NOCSAE performance standard under the traditional chest protector
- 3) A chest pad that protects the heart/cardiac silhouette and meets the NOCSAE performance standard that fits on top of the traditional chest protector.

If a team comes to the field without one of these three options, the team that has the correct gear could opt to let the other team's catcher borrow the equipment while they are on defense. If the team does not or if neither team has the proper catcher's chest protector, the game WILL NOT be played! Please ensure that each of your teams is equipped with the proper protective catcher's gear.

