

Standard Specification for Eye Protective Devices for Paintball Sports¹

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INTRODUCTION

This is the specification for eye, face, and head protective devices, or EHPD, to be used in the sport of paintball. Paintball is a sport that, like all sports, has intrinsic hazards. These hazards include being hit by paintballs. Protective equipment cannot eliminate all injuries but will substantially reduce their severity and frequency. Participation in this sport by a player implies acceptance of injury risk. The goal of protective equipment is to minimize the risk of injury.

Performance requirements are presented and are intended to minimize injury with minimal impairment of the form and appeal of the sport. This specification is subject to revision as indicated by subsequent injury statistics.

The impact requirements are designed to give eye, adnexa of eye, and head protection from paintball impacts likely to be encountered under game conditions. While the EHPD also may protect the user from other potential impacts, such as running into tree branches, there are many conceivable impacts, including falls from heights, which could exceed the specification and result in eye injury despite the use of the EHPD.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification applies to eye, face, and head protective devices, designed for use by players of the sport of paintball, which minimize or significantly reduce injury to the eye, adnexa of eye, face, and head due to paintball impact or penetration, or both.

1.2 EHPDs by nature provide three types of protection. The first type of protection is for the eyes and adnexa of eye and not necessarily for any other parts of the face or head. The second type of protection adds coverage for the ears and face. The third type of coverage adds cranial coverage in addition to that provided to types II and III. These coverage types are defined in Section 8.

1.3 This specification does not limit the wearing of eyeglasses or contact lenses when used in conjunction with the EHPD.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.5 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

C1027 Test Method for Determining Visible Abrasion Resistance of Glazed Ceramic Tile

D1003 Test Method for Haze and Luminous Transmittance of Transparent Plastics

F803 Specification for Eye Protectors for Selected Sports

F1979 Specification for Paintballs Used in the Sport of Paintball

F2272 Specification for Paintball Markers

2.2 ANSI Standards:

ANSI Z80.3 Requirements for Nonprescription Sunglasses and Fashion Eyewear³

ANSI Z87.1 Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protectors³

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F08 on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F08.57 on Eye Safety for Sports.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.