

AS/NZS 4499.3:1997

Australian/New Zealand Standard[®]

Protective headgear for cricket

Part 3: Faceguards



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 Australian Sports Commission
 Neurosurgical Society of Australasia
 New South Wales TAFE Commission
 New Zealand Sports Assembly
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Australian Ice Hockey Federation
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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee CS/95, Helmets for Ball Games.

This Standard deals with the requirements for faceguards intended to be used as an accessory to a cricket helmet, the requirements for which are set out in AS/NZS 4499.1, *Protective headgear for cricket, Part 1: Helmets*. The Committee considers a faceguard to be a necessary component for improved head protection, however, the requirements have been dealt with in a separate Standard as faceguards are not usually attached permanently to helmets. Separating the requirements allows the user the choice of different styles of faceguards, or alternatively a temple protector, the requirements for which are set out in AS/NZS 4499.2, *Protective headgear for cricket, Part 2: Temple protectors*.

The ability of a faceguard to absorb some of the energy of an impact depends to a great degree on the geometry of the retention system of the helmet. In many cases, the retention system of a helmet has been designed to incorporate a chincup as a pivot point in the retention system, which acts to prevent the faceguard being pushed onto the wearers face. For some other types of helmets, the use of a chincup in place of an underjaw retaining strap could allow the helmet to be dislodged from the wearers head during an accident. Therefore, the use of a chincup is allowed within AS/NZS 4499.1, whereas the use of a chincup is not permitted within some other helmet Standards.

In addition to providing protection for the face, the faceguard also provides protection for the temple region of the head which is an area where the skull is weak and contains easily ruptured blood vessels.

The $400g_n$ to $500g_n$ initial deceleration figure cited in this Standard, measured using the test procedure and apparatus in AS/NZS 2512.3.2, *Methods of testing protective helmets, Method 3.2: Determination of impact energy attenuation—Striker drop test*, was selected because it discriminates between products which had been shown on the cricket field to provide adequate protection and products which had not performed well. It does not correlate with, and should not be confused with, similar figures used in other Standards to express expected brain deceleration.

For a better understanding of the needs and requirements for head protection for cricketers, this Standard should be read and considered in conjunction with AS/NZS 4499, Parts 1 and 2.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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