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Protective equipment for cricketers —

Part 4: Gloves for batsmen

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

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Amateur Boxing Association
British Association of Field Hockey Equipment Manufacturers
British Dental Association
British Equestrian Trade Association
British Horse Society
British Rubber Manufacturers Association Ltd.
British Safety Industry Federation
British Society for the Study of Prosthetic Dentistry
British Toy and Hobby Association
BSI Testing Services
Consumer Policy Committee of BSI
Dental Laboratories Association Limited
England and Wales Cricket Board
Football Association
Jockey Club
Royal College of Surgeons of England
Rugby Football Union
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Foreword

This part of BS 6183 has been prepared by Subcommittee PH/3/11. Together with BS 6183-1:2000, -2:2000 and -3:2000 it supersedes BS 6183-1:1981, which is withdrawn.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 11 and a back cover.

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Introduction

Protective equipment is worn by cricketers to reduce the severity of injuries from accidental impact by cricket balls. Batsmen are particularly exposed to balls coming off the pitch at unexpected angles. The level of protection required depends on the skill and strength of the player and of the opposing team.

This British Standard is divided into five parts as follows:

- *Part 1: General requirements;*
- *Part 2: Genital protectors;*
- *Part 3: Leg protectors for batsmen, wicket-keepers and fielders and thigh, arm and chest protectors for batsmen;*
- *Part 4: Gloves for batsmen;*
- *Part 5: Gloves for wicket keepers.*

Batsmen's hands are exposed to impacts by cricket balls when they are holding their bat. The impacts are all unintentional. A ball hitting a glove and going on to the wicket or being caught gets the batsman out. They therefore do not want gloves that are larger than is essential. Some bowlers may be tempted to bowl in such a way that glove impacts are more likely. Balls coming off the pitch and rising unexpectedly are a particular problem to batsmen.

In causing injuries the velocity of the ball is highly significant, while the movement of the bat handle towards the ball contributes to the severity of the impact particularly as the hand is most frequently injured by being between the ball and the bat handle. Batting gloves do not prevent all hand injuries, but should reduce their severity. Bruising is much more common than fractures. Hand injuries cause more days of playing to be lost than all other ball impact injuries combined.

An analysis of reported fractures in first class cricket showed concentrations of fractures to the thumb and first finger of the bottom hand, and to the fourth finger of the top hand. Smaller numbers of fractures occurred to the second finger of the bottom hand and first finger of the top hand. It is probable some fractures are caused by lateral impacts on the digits which are exposed in the areas where most fractures occur and where padding on the gloves has been frequently thinner than on the backs of the digits.

Batsmen are particularly concerned about the comfort and fit of their gloves because their aim is to score runs off good strokes. Batsmen are not able to predict what level of protection they will need or to accurately assess the protection that will be provided by a glove. Their choice of glove is therefore guided by comfort and fit and the reputation of the gloves.

Four performance levels are described in BS 6183-1:2000, **3.1.4** note 1. Level 4 is the appropriate level of protection for batsmen in first class cricket with a history of finger fractures and batsmen who are perhaps particularly concerned to protect their bowling hand.

1 Scope

This part of this British Standard gives requirements and test methods for gloves for batsmen.

NOTE General requirements for protective equipment for cricketers are given in BS 6183-1.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of this British Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these documents do not apply. For undated references, the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

BS 6183-1:2000, *Protective equipment for cricketers — Part 1: General requirements.*

BS 6183-3:2000, *Protective equipment for cricketers — Part 3: Leg protectors for batsmen, wicket-keepers and fielders and thigh, arm and chest protectors for batsmen.*

BS EN 420:1994, *General requirements for gloves.*

BS EN ISO 4045, *Leather — Determination of pH.*

BS EN ISO 11642, *Leather — Tests for colour fastness — Colour fastness to water.*