

**CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION****Sunshine Act Meeting**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, August 6, 1996.

**LOCATION:** Room 714, East West Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Closed to the Public.

**MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:**

Children's Sleepwear Enforcement

The Commission will consider issues related to the enforcement of the children's sleepwear standard.

The Commission decided on August 1, 1996, that agency business required scheduling this meeting without the usual seven days advance public notice.

For a recorded message containing the latest agenda information, call (301) 504-0709.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL**

**INFORMATION:** Sadye E. Dunn, Office of the Secretary, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20207 (301) 504-0800.

Dated: August 2, 1996.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-20160 Filed 8-2-96; 2:23 pm]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-M

**Petition Requesting Development of Safety Standard for Protective Batting Helmets and Staff Report**

**AGENCY:** Consumer Product Safety Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In 1994, the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery petitioned the Commission to develop a safety standard for protective batting helmets used by children younger than 15 years of age to require these helmets to be manufactured with a face guard. In 1996, the Commission staff published a report about injuries to children associated with baseball and the types of protective equipment currently available to prevent those injuries. The Commission solicits written comments on the petition and on that portion of the report concerning facial injuries and batting helmets with face guards.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Commission voted 2-1 to publish this notice, with Commissioner Mary Shiela Gall dissenting. Commissioner Gall's statement concerning her vote is available from the Office of the Secretary.

**DATES:** Comments on the petition and the report should be received in the Office of the Secretary by September 20, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the petition should be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207, telephone (301) 504-0800, or delivered to the Office of the Secretary, room 502, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Comments should be captioned "Petition and Report Concerning Batting Helmets with Face Guards." Five copies are requested of each submission in response to this notice.

A copy of the petition, comments on the petition submitted before July 26, 1995, and the document entitled "Youth Baseball Protective Equipment Project—Final Report" are available for inspection at the Commission's Public Reading Room, room 419, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland. To obtain a copy of the petition, comments on the petition, or "Youth Baseball Protective Equipment Project—Special Report," call or write Rockelle Hammond, Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207; telephone (301) 504-0800.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information about the petition or the staff report, call or write Susan B. Kyle, Directorate for Epidemiology and Health Sciences, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207; telephone (301) 504-0470, extension 1210.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In 1994, the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery petitioned the Commission to develop a safety standard for protective batting helmets intended for children. The petition, designated HP 95-1, requests development of a standard requiring batting helmets intended for children younger than 15 years of age to be manufactured with a face guard which meets the requirements of the Safety Specification for Face Guards for Youth Baseball (ASTM F910), published by ASTM (formerly the American Society for Testing and Materials). The petition includes two articles from the journal "Pediatrics." These articles state that batting-related injuries are a leading cause of sports-related eye injuries and that the Sports Eye Safety Committee of the National Society to Prevent Blindness has endorsed requiring face guards with batting helmets. The petition asserts that the use of batting helmets without face guards by children

younger than 15 years of age creates an unreasonable risk of injury.

In the Federal Register of November 1, 1994 (59 FR 54548), the Commission published a notice to solicit written comments on the petition. In response to that notice the Commission received four comments, all of which urge denial of the petition.

Two comments observe that the risk of being injured from impact of the ball is inherent in the game of baseball. One of these comments states that helmets meeting the requirements of the standard requested by the petition would add to the frustrations of young players and detract from their enjoyment of the game.

Two other comments state that the ASTM standard for face guards should not be incorporated into a mandatory standard. These comments state that the adequacy of protection afforded by this standard has not been adequately evaluated, and that compliance with the standard could reduce the player's field of vision and access to the airway of an injured player.

In 1995, the Commission staff began a study of the circumstances surrounding facial injuries associated with baseball and softball. On July 14, 1995, the Commission voted to defer a decision on the petition until the results of that study became available.

In May 1996, the Commission staff completed a report entitled "Youth Baseball Protective Equipment Project—Final Report" (the Final Report). That document provides information about injuries to children associated with baseball, and about protective equipment available to prevent those injuries. The Final Report discusses, among other things, a survey of injuries associated with baseball, softball, and T-ball treated in hospital emergency rooms during the spring and summer of 1995. A copy of the complete Final Report is available without charge by writing or calling the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207; telephone (301) 504-0800.

From the survey of injuries associated with baseball, the Commission staff estimates that about 37 per cent (59,400) of the total youth baseball-related injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms were facial injuries. About 74 per cent of these facial injuries resulted from being hit by a ball; 19 per cent resulted from being hit by a bat; and about 7 per cent resulted from colliding with another player.

Batters sustained 11 per cent of all facial injuries. Almost 98 per cent of the injured batters were batting righthanded. For these right-handed

batters, 56 per cent of the facial injuries were to the left side of the face (the side toward the pitcher); 28 per cent were to the right side of the face; in the remaining 16 per cent, the location of the injury on the face was unknown.

For the youngest children, ages five through seven years old, facial injuries represented a high proportion of all injuries (59 to 84 per cent). Facial injuries accounted for 50 per cent or more of all injuries for players younger than 10 years of age.

For five-year-olds, facial injuries were divided almost evenly between organized play (53 per cent) and unorganized play (47 per cent). Facial injuries in organized play predominated in all other age groups, consisting of 72 to 96 per cent of all injuries.

The Commission staff estimates that 2.1 to 3.5 million protective batting helmets are in use by players in all organized youth leagues during a single season. About 4 to 10 per cent of these helmets are likely to have face guards. The Commission staff also estimates that about 125,000 to 200,000 face guards were sold during the years 1994 and 1995.

The results of the 1995 survey of injuries to children associated with baseball and other information contained in the Final Report were not available when the Commission requested comments on the petition in 1994. Therefore, the Commission now solicits comments on the petition and those portions of the Final Report concerning facial injuries and face guards.

Additionally, the Commission solicits information on the following topics:

- The expected useful life of face guards;
- The number and types of any injuries associated with the use of face guards;
- The number of children who participated in organized and/or unorganized play, by age;
- Any information about the effectiveness of face guards to prevent or reduce injuries; and
- Information about annual sales of face guards for the past ten years, and projected sales for the next five years.

Dated: July 31, 1996.

Sadye E. Dunn,

*Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission.*

[FR Doc. 96-19882 Filed 8-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-P

## CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Revision of the National Senior Service Corps' Project Progress Report (A-1020)

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of 30-day OMB review of Project Progress Report.

**SUMMARY:** On June 4, the National Senior Service Corps (NSSC) announced a 60-day review and comment period during which project sponsors and the public were encouraged to submit comments suggesting revisions to the NSSC Project Progress Report (PPR) used by project sponsors (grantees) to report progress made toward work plan accomplishment, problems encountered, resources generated and budget variances from the grant awarded.

Comments were invited on (1) whether the existing PPR appropriately meets project oversight and operational management, planning and reporting needs of the Senior Corps programs; (2) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the PPR; (3) accuracy of agency estimates of reporting burden; and (4) ways to further reduce burden on respondents.

NSSC is requesting extension of the authorization to use the PPR in its current form with grants funded in 1997. However, revising and phasing in of a new form in conjunction with planned implementation of the impact programming initiative and redesign of the Project Grant Application is anticipated for grants funded in 1998.

**DATES:** The National Senior Service Corps and the Office of Management and Budget will consider written comments on the Project Progress Report and record keeping requirements which are received within 30 days from the date of publication.

Addressess to Send Comments to both:

Janice Forney Fisher, NSSC, Rm 9403A, Corp. for National Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20525

Deborah Bonds, Office of Info. & Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503

Estimated Annual reporting or Disclosure Burden: 18,400 hours.

Established projects (over 80 percent of NSSC grantees) report twice annually. First-year projects, new components, demonstrations, and projects experiencing problems or with substantial project revisions will

continue to report quarterly, as identified in the Notice of Grant Award (NGA).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janice Forney Fisher (202) 606-5000 ext. 275.

This document will be made available in alternate format upon request. TDD (202) 606-5000 ext. 164.

Regulatory Authority: National Service Trust Act of 1993.

Dated: July 31, 1996.

Thomas E. Endres,

*Deputy Director, National Senior Service Corps.*

[FR Doc. 96-19929 Filed 8-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-28-M

### Proposed Changes to AmeriCorps State, National, and Tribes and Territories Application Guidelines for the Program Year 1997 Grant Cycle

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Request for comment on proposed changes in policy and guidelines for AmeriCorps State, National, and Tribes and Territories applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Corporation for National and Community Service is proposing changes to and inviting comments on its application guidelines for AmeriCorps programs: AmeriCorps State and National programs; and AmeriCorps Tribes and Territories. The proposed changes were developed in response to recommendations from programs and experience over the last two years. The changes were also developed to reduce the federal cost of AmeriCorps programs to meet specific benchmarks over the next three years. A broad range of areas is covered by the proposed changes, including the following: the timeline for distribution of guidelines and submission of applications; new targets and caps on program costs per Member; revised priorities for service activities in the areas of education, public safety, the environment, and other human needs; and criteria for evaluating the quality of program applications. The Corporation invites all interested parties to submit written comments on the issues discussed in this notice. Comments received will be given careful consideration in the development of final Program Year 1997 policies and grant application guidelines.

**DATES:** Only written comments will be considered. Comments must be submitted no later than October 7, 1996. Faxes will not be accepted.