

<b>SYA Diamond Sports Softball Face Guard Requirement</b>							
	<b>LL Minors</b>	<b>LL Majors</b>	<b>LL Seniors</b>	<b>10u Xplosion*</b>	<b>12u Xplosion*</b>	<b>14u Xplosion*</b>	<b>Xplosion-Travel Only Teams</b>
<b>Pitcher</b>	RQ	RQ	RQ	RQ	RQ	RQ	SR
<b>3rd Base</b>	RQ	RQ	RQ	RQ	RQ	RQ	SR
<b>1st Base</b>	RQ	SR	SR	RQ	SR	SR	O
<b>2B/SS</b>	RQ	O	O	RQ	O	O	O
<b>Outfield</b>	RQ	O	O	O	O	O	O
RQ - Required							
SR - Strongly recommended							
O - Optional							
LL Minors includes AAA, AA, and Rookies							
Catcher is N/A as they are required to wear catchers mask with dangling throat guard (throat guard is LL requirement only)							
*House/LL based Xplosion teams							
All Head Coaches have the ability to require guards as necessary, but not lessen the requirements							
<p>While SYA Diamond Sports has previously required face guards for all players from Rookies through Seniors, we have re-evaluated this position to make them as noted in the table above for all positional players except catchers - catchers are still required to use the catchers helmet with a protective throat guard at all times when behind the plate. We do recommend that each family/player evaluate their own skill set and positions they play to access the need. We do strongly recommend that all pitchers and 3rd base players, if not required, wear them due to their proximity to the batter.</p> <p>We considered the girls' safety in making this decision as well as what is going on around us with other leagues and programs. We by no way want to hinder the development and enjoyment of the players, but safety should be foremost and it may also provide additional confidence to the player. Individual coaches may have additional requirements as they understand the talent and the type of opponents they are playing.</p>							
<b>Travel Teams:</b>							
<p>Sec 7. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT</p> <p>As a general rule, USSSA continues its long standing policy of permitting players to determine the use of the protective equipment when they deem it appropriate. USSSA encourages players to utilize any protective equipment that they deem appropriate. Such protective equipment will be allowed in USSSA sanctioned play, unless by rule or by Director/Umpire ruling such protective equipment is disallowed as unsafe or as providing an unfair competitive advantage. If used, the equipment must not be detached. Detached equipment can result in an obstruction or interference ruling. Repeated acts could be grounds for ejection. Defensive face masks – While the use of defensive face masks is optional, if they are worn, they must meet the transparency requirements applicable to batting and catching helmets. If an eye shield is attached, it must be constructed of a molded, rigid material that is clear and permits 100 per cent (no tint) allowable light transmission.</p>							