

USHA Members:

May 25, 2015

The abstract of the phase one Study of Protective Eyewear for Handball was published in the May 2015 HANDBALL magazine, with associated links on the USHA website.

During project research, Pacific University physics major Benjamin Schmid and I began a dialogue with the American Society of Testing and Materials, Int. (ASTM) regarding their general racquet sports eyewear safety standards document, F803-14, which includes handball. The ASTM is an all-volunteer organization of more than 30,000 scientists, engineers, business people and academic professionals seeking to make society better and safer. This organization defines more than 12,000 standards for multiple disciplines including sports equipment safety.

Ben and I were invited to the ASTM semi-annual conference held in May 2015 in Anaheim, California, where we presented a summary of our testing to the F857 group, which writes sports eyewear standards. Our presented research convinced the group that the current document is not applicable to handball and our sport was subsequently removed from it. Following that presentation, we were asked by the group chairman, Dale Pfriem, president of ICS Laboratories in Ohio, to form a task group to create a handball specific standard for eyewear separate from the general document.

All interested USHA members are invited to provide input, feedback and ideas for this project. Ben and I also encourage those with a strong desire to join our ASTM sub-committee to actually write the standard.

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