

Mill Valley Little League
Pitchers Protective Headgear
As Approved by MVLL Board on May 9, 2017

Policy Statement: At this time, Little League, and our sport's governing body on the issue of equipment safety, NOCSAE (National Operating Committee for Standards in Athletic Equipment) has not approved any pitcher-specific helmet or other pitcher-specific protective headgear for use by Little League players and as such Mill Valley Little League cannot require players to use such protective headgear. Use of protective headgear for pitchers is at the discretion of the parents or legal guardians of each player. We will update our policy as necessary to remain in compliance with any future standards adopted by Little League and NOCSAE. **We strongly recommend that parents educate themselves on the potential risks associated with pitching, consider carefully whether their pitching child should use protective headgear, and investigate the available products to determine which, if any, are appropriate for their child.** While we cannot specifically recommend any particular product, we are currently aware of two products on the market that parents, at their discretion, may consider for their child's use: these include the DOME (formerly HALO) skullcap (www.unequal.com) which fits under a baseball cap, and the all-sports Noggin skullcap (www.nogginsport.com). We note from their website that Noggin requires that its skullcap be worn under a properly fitted certified helmet; the only certified helmet in Little League is a batting helmet. Other products, such as base coach helmets converted to use as a pitcher's helmet, or MLB's pitcher's helmets, or any product that blocks a player's ability to see, is distracting to the batter, or which is unstable or unsafe, does not meet Little League requirements and may not be used in Little League.