

NOCSAE Recertification Update for Cascade Model R

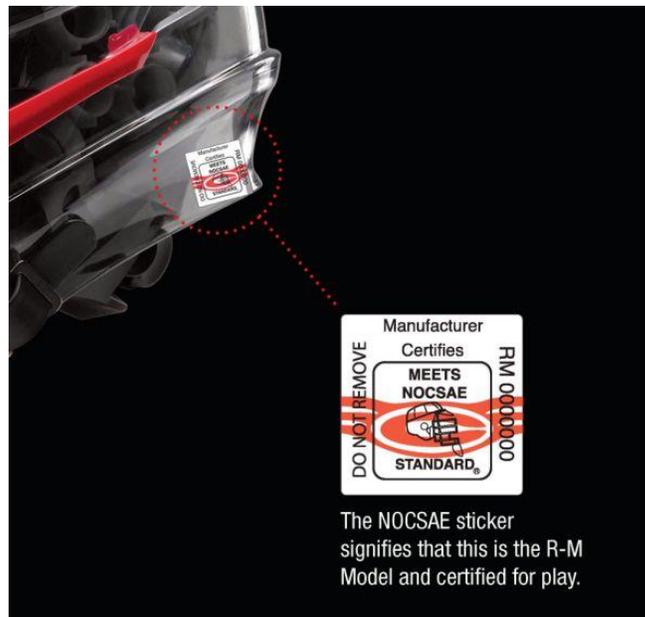
January 14, 2015 - As the 2015 season approaches or may have even started in some areas we at US Lacrosse wanted to provide you with an update on the NOCSAE decertification of the Cascade Model R and Warrior Regulator Helmet. As officials, it is important for you to be aware of these issues and understand how to assist with maintaining a safe playing environment for the players.

In mid-December, Cascade Lacrosse reached an agreement with the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) on a solution for the recently decertified Cascade R helmet.

The solution involves a simple modification to the Cascade R helmet currently in the marketplace. NOCSAE has accepted the solution and Cascade's data confirms the helmet, as modified by this solution, meets NOCSAE certification standards.

Once the certified modification has been complete, a tamper-proof sticker will be affixed to the helmet like the one below to show that it is NOCSAE certified and to differentiate it from non-certified R models. The modified helmet will be treated as a new model, identified as the Cascade R-M.

Please note, this sticker will ONLY be found on the R-M Model Cascades that have been recertified.



NFHS, NCAA and USL rules require that NOCSAE Certified Helmets be worn. Any helmet that did not get officially modified by Cascade does not meet NOCSAE standards and is not legal for play. The certification will remain void.

As officials it is your responsibility to follow the rules as written and enforce as appropriate by level of play. Knowingly ignoring a rule or rules especially in regards to safety could potentially put you at a great risk of being held liable should an accident occur involving a decertified or uncertified helmet.

Prior to the beginning of a contest, officials are to meet with the head coach of both teams and the head coach must certify to the head official that all players are legally equipped by rule.

Please reference the following for specific language: NCAA Men Rule 1.22, NCAA Women Rule 3.2, NFHS Boys Rule 1.1, USL Girls Rule 3.2

It is recommended that officials add this additional statement as well when meeting with the head coaches during pregame.

“Coach, are you aware that the Cascade Model R, if not recertified, and Warrior Regulator helmet models do not meet the NOCSAE standard for lacrosse at this time and they are not legal for play?”

Once the game has commenced officials shall enforce the rules of play as applicable. If an illegal helmet is discovered during the game, live play or random and/or mandatory equipment checks by rule, a penalty should be administered based on the rules of play.

Please reference the following for specific language: NCAA Men Rule 5.10, NCAA Women Rule 7.5, NFHS Boys Rule 5.6, USL Girls Rule 7.5.

Please note officials should only officiate using rules approved for play by NFHS, NCAA or USL. Modifications to these rules, especially those rules pertaining to player safety, are not approved by any USL, NFHS or the NCAA. This especially includes any waivers that may be in use by tournaments, leagues or programs that are attempting to implement them to bypass the requirement for NOCSAE helmets.

Please note at the time of this memo no recertification process has been approved for the Warrior Regulator helmets and these helmets remain illegal for play at all levels.