



# **INFORMATION BULLETIN**

**Bulletin #:** 2026-22

**Date:** *June 5th, 2026*

**To:** All Members

**CC:** Board of Directors, Minor Coordinators, Men's & Women's Coordinators, Slo Pitch Coordinators, District Umpire In Chiefs and Staff

**From:** Shaquille Gilbert, Umpires & Championships Director

**Subject:** Face Visors, Specialty Glasses, and AI-Enabled Eyewear

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Softball BC has received several inquiries about participants wearing face visors, specialty glasses, and AI-enabled eyewear at Softball BC-sanctioned events.

After consulting with the Provincial Umpire-in-Chief and reviewing the Softball Canada Rulebook, the following interpretation and guidance will apply until Softball Canada issues further direction.

## **AI-Enabled Eyewear**

AI-enabled eyewear (e.g. Meta Glasses and similar devices) shall be considered communication equipment and are therefore not permitted for use by game participants during a game.

Softball Canada Rule 3.4.1.c.iv states:

"No communication equipment shall be used between the spectator area and the field, including the dugout, a coach and a player."

Softball Canada Rulebook:

<https://softball.ca/resources/library>

As AI-enabled eyewear can transmit information, access internet-based services, record, and facilitate communication, such devices fall within the scope of communication equipment contemplated by Rule 3.4.1.c.iv. Accordingly, players,



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coaches, and other participants in a game shall not wear or use AI-enabled eyewear during a game.

## **Face Visors**

Face visors are permitted for use by players.

Where a visor is worn by a pitcher, the visor should not be the same colour as the game ball (yellow or optic yellow), as this may create a visual disadvantage for the batter.

To minimize any concerns regarding visibility or competitive advantage, pitchers are encouraged to wear visors in neutral colours such as black or other dark, non-reflective shades.

## **Sunglasses**

Conventional sunglasses that do not possess communication, recording, or internet-enabled capabilities remain permitted and do not currently present any concerns under the Softball Canada Rulebook.

## **Questions**

Questions regarding equipment, eyewear, or the interpretation of this bulletin should first be directed to your District UIC. If additional clarification is required, the District UIC may elevate the matter to the Provincial UIC or the Softball BC Umpires & Championships Director as appropriate.

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Umpires & Championships Director

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