Each year, more than 40,000 people are treated for eye injuries related to sports activities. Using the right kind of eye protection while playing sports can help prevent serious eye injuries and even blindness.

For sports use, polycarbonate lenses must be used with protectors that meet or exceed the requirements of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). Each sport has a specific ASTM code, so look for the ASTM label on the product before making a purchase.

**Baseball**

*Type of eye protection:*
- Faceguard (attached to helmet) made of polycarbonate material
- Sports eyeguards

*Eye injuries prevented:*
- Scratches on the cornea
- Inflamed iris
- Blood spilling into the eye’s anterior chamber
- Traumatic cataract
- Swollen retina

**Basketball**

*Type of eye protection:*
- Sports eyeguards

*Eye injuries prevented:*
- Fracture of the eye socket
- Scratches on the cornea
- Inflamed iris
- Blood spilling into the eye’s anterior chamber
- Swollen retina
Recommended Sports Eye Protectors—Continued

**Soccer**

*Type of eye protection:*
- Sports eyeguards

*Eye injuries prevented:*
- Inflamed iris
- Blood spilling into the eye’s anterior chamber
- Swollen retina

**Football**

*Type of eye protection:*
- Polycarbonate shield attached to faceguard
- Sports eyeguards

*Eye injuries prevented:*
- Scratches on the cornea
- Inflamed iris
- Blood spilling into the eye’s anterior chamber
- Swollen retina

**Hockey**

*Type of eye protection:*
- Wire or polycarbonate mask
- Sports eyeguards

*Eye injuries prevented:*
- Scratches on the cornea
- Inflamed iris
- Blood spilling into the eye’s anterior chamber
- Traumatic cataract
- Swollen retina