

BLACKWOOD FIRE COMPANY OPERATING GUIDELINE

7.5 FIREFIGHTER SAFETY - PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

EYE AND FACE PROTECTION

7.5.1 Protective eye and face equipment shall be required when there is a reasonable probability that injury resulting from dust, flying or falling objects or liquids can be prevented by the use of such equipment.

7.5.2 Types of Eye Protection

7.5.2.1 Helmet Face shield - Secondary eye/face protection to be used in conjunction with safety eyeglasses, goggles, or SCBA mask.

7.5.2.2 Safety Eyeglasses - Prescription, regular glass or plastic eyeglasses that meet ANSI Z87.1 Standards. Safety glasses are primary eye protection used for protection from ordinary hazards.

7.5.2.3 Safety Goggles - Primary eye protection, used for additional protection from flying liquids and when working with tools producing excessive dust, and/or flying particles.

7.5.2.4 SCBA Mask - While wearing SCBA, the face piece is considered primary eye protection.

7.5.2.5 Bourke Eye Shields – These are only found on personally owned helmets and are not approved as eye protection. Personnel with Bourke Shields must maintain and utilize safety glasses and goggles as required.

7.5.3 Examples of work activities requiring eye protection:

7.5.3.1 Operation of power saws (K-1200, K-650, Sawzall, Chainsaw) - Safety goggles stored with the listed saws shall be used when the SCBA face piece is not in place.

7.5.3.2 Operation of Hydraulic Rescue Equipment - The operator and all personnel in the vicinity of operating, power hydraulic equipment shall wear a minimum of safety eyeglasses. Safety goggles are recommended for the power unit operator and tool operators.

7.5.3.3 Working with striking tools (axes, hammers, battering ram, etc...) - The operator and all personnel in the work area shall wear a minimum of safety eyeglasses. Safety goggles and/or the helmet

face shield should be used for additional protection if SCBA is not being used.

7.5.3.4 During overhaul activities when the SCBA face piece is not in place (pulling ceilings, walls, etc...), a minimum of safety eyeglasses is required. In addition, the use of the helmet face shield is suggested.

7.5.3.5 While working with power equipment, or any equipment in the stations which may cause the conditions listed in 7.5.1.

7.5.3.6 The previously listed activities represent only the most common activities which may cause eye or facial injury. Common sense and the proper protective equipment shall be used during any activity which may create conditions listed in 7.5.1.

HEARING PROTECTION

7.5.4 Members working in a sustained high noise area, or members using or working near gas powered equipment shall utilize the appropriate hearing protection.

7.5.5 Types of Hearing Protection

7.5.5.1 Disposable ear plugs are used for general work in a high noise area, (ie. working near another member operating a power saw.)

7.5.5.2 Ear Muffs are used when member will be exposed to very high noise levels, (ie. operating a gas powered saw). These may be used in conjunction with ear plugs for additional protection.

7.5.5.3 Radio Headsets provide hearing protection for pump operators, in addition to providing better radio communications.

HAND PROTECTION

7.5.6 Types of Gloves

7.5.6.1 Fire gloves – NFPA approved insulated glove to be used for all Incidents where members will be fighting fire, or standing by for a potential fire.

7.5.6.2 Leather work/Rescue gloves - Can be utilized by members not Involved in firefighting, or stand by, for rescue incidents or other work where greater manual dexterity is required.

7.5.6.3 Latex (surgical) gloves - Shall be utilized by all members providing patient care or handling EMS equipment.

7.5.6.4 Chemical protective gloves - Shall only be used by trained members, utilizing manufacturer supplied application table.

7.5.7 Members responding to or operating at the scene of any fire/emergency incident shall utilize the proper type of glove for the situation encountered