

# Supporting Players



# Mouthguard Information Booklet



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#### How do Mouthguards Work?

Without mouthguard (Left side of diagram), a blow to the lower face sends shock waves through the skull. A direct impact can fracture the front teeth. However other blows, particularly to the lower jaw, can cause other damage. A blow to the lower jaw can slam the jaws together and the sudden impact of the relatively sharp lower teeth into the back of the upper teeth is like a chisel, causing

a fracture of the upper teeth by punching them forwards.

In some cases, the transmitted forces can lead to a fracture of the lower jaw, or will travel through the jaw joint (TMJ) into the base of the skull causing a concussion.

Mouthguards act like a shock absorber (Right side of diagram), both spreading the force over a larger area and increasing the time for the peak force to occur. Dissipating the energy of the blow over a larger area and longer time reduces its

effect and preventing or vastly reducing any injury.

#### Why Buy OPROshield Mouthguards?

OPRO is the world leader in the design and manufacture of self-fit mouthguards. All OPROshield mouthguards provide excellent retention and comfort whilst giving increased protection with minimal effect on speech or breathing.

OPROshield's key benefits are:

- 1. They are **simple and easy to fit**. Unlike other 'boil and bite' type mouthguards, OPROshield's patented design offers unprecedented comfort and fit
- 2. All come with a **dental warranty**
- 3. All are fully and legally CE certified
- 4. All have a wide open front palate for ease of breathing and speaking
- 5. All mouthguards come with their own mouthguard case
- 6. Stretch zones allow the OPROshield to stretch to fit almost any mouth
- 7. **Integrated posterior buffer pads** and OPROfin stabilisers offer unrivalled protection against oro-facial impacts and protect the temperomandibular joint from traumatic injury
- 8. OPROshield's unique and patented **OPROfin** technology provides the ultimate in retention and fit of any 'boil and bite' type mouthguard
- 9. A well-fitted **OPROshield** has increased thickness and elasticity in the primary contact zones of the mouth and is therefore **far more effective** at preventing concussion and injury
- 10. OPROshield mouthguards are the official mouthguard of the GAA and GPA

## OPROshield product range

	OPROshield <b>Bronze</b> – complete protection mouthguard
	1 material 11 self forming fins
	OPROshield <b>Silver</b> – enhanced protection mouthguard
	2 materials 11 self forming fins
	OPROshield Silver (Junior) – enhanced protection mouthguard
	2 materials 8 self forming fins Drainage holes to aid cooling
	OPROshield <b>Gold</b> – superior protection mouthguard
	2 materials 21 self forming fins
Harding to Harding to Hardin	OPROshield <b>Platinum</b> – ultimate protection mouthguard
	4 materials 21 self Multiple Patented fitting forming fins Protection zones Patented fitting



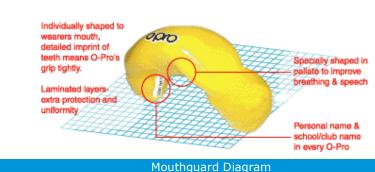
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#### **OPRO** custom fitted product range

OPRO was the first and still is the only fully national school and club organisation to arrange for sports players, both young and old, to have custom fitting mouthguards made by dentists. OPRO has grown to become the largest supplier of custom mouthguards in the world!! The service includes the following:

- OPRO provides all literature for schools & clubs to send out to their pupils and players.
- They arrange a date and time for one (or more) of our dental teams to attend the school/club to take impressions of those requesting gumshields. All our dentists are fully qualified dental surgeons in the UK and we have vetted their gualifications and credentials.
- All orders are sent directly to us, and we collate them all. We then give the school/club a list of all those replying. Our schools can also access these lists from our dedicated (and password protected!) school web page.
- When the OPRO dental team visits the school or club they will take impressions of the players who have ordered mouthguards, taking into consideration all factors that can affect the fit of the mouthguard, such as tooth development, orthodontic braces etc.
- The impressions are then brought back to the OPRO central dental laboratory in Hertfordshire. The impressions are cast in plaster and then gumshields are individually made for each person, in their own choice of design and colour(s).
- Finally, the completed gumshields are returned to the school/club for collection by the pupils/players.

# THE ANATOMY OF A MOUTHGUARD



Every OPRO is laminated. That means it is made from two or more layers, which are formed over the plaster cast of the mouth, one after the other. This ensures that certain areas which can be quite thin in single laminate mouthguards, get a generous covering - particularly important over the tips of the front teeth.

## Named

Laminated

The final laminate is always clear which means that we can incorporate each person's name in the mouthguard, and then seal it in. This is absolutely vital as it;

- Helps prevent loss of the mouthguard, as everyone else will know it's yours.
- Prevents you from trying to put someone else's mouthguard in your mouth. It wouldn't fit anyway, but you would be at risk of infection!

## Shaped for comfort

Have you ever had a gumshield that made you gag, prevented you from talking clearly, interfered with breathing...

Well, each OPRO is individually shaped, and we look closely at the design to ensure that it is as comfortable, and unobtrusive as possible. That's why literally 10's of 1,000's of sports people now wear OPRO's.

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# Where can I purchase OPROshield Mouthguards?

The OPROshield products can be purchased through a large network of retailers including

- ✓ Centra stores nationwide
- ✓ Elverys stores
- ✓ Lifestyle Sports stores
- ✓ O'Neills stores
- ✓ Supervalu stores
- ✓ Sportsworld/Heatons

They are also available for clubs to purchase directly from O'Neills.

# Are there recommended retail prices for OPROshield Mouthguards?

Outlined below are the *recommended* retail prices for these products

