

Guardian Cap NXT 2.0 Permitted for Wear During 2026 NFL Season

Guardian Sports' sleek customizable Cap approved for NFL games and practices

ATLANTA (April 8, 2026) – Guardian Sports today announced that the National Football League has updated its 2026 Guardian Cap mandate, allowing all teams to choose between the Guardian Cap NXT and Guardian Cap NXT 2.0.

This extension, shared last week with clubs in conjunction with the annual health and safety summit, builds on the league's successful use of Guardian Caps over the past four seasons. During that time, the NFL has mandated their use in contact practices across preseason, regular season, and postseason, expanded position requirements, and allowed players to wear Caps during games.

The Guardian Cap NXT 2.0 is a 12-ounce soft-shell layer of padding with the same materials and performance as the Guardian Cap NXT, the product mandated by the NFL over the last four seasons initially to mitigate force reduction, [but with unexpected benefits](#) in NFL players who wore them.

Differentiating itself from the NXT, the NXT 2.0 features a sleeker surface that allows for advanced customization and team branding. The NXT 2.0 can be customized with decals so the cap visually resembles team helmets. This follows after dozens of NCAA athletes used customized 2.0s in games this past season.

Guardian Sports Co-Founder & CEO Erin Hanson shares, "We're thrilled to see the next evolution of the Guardian Cap embraced by the NFL. Guardian Sports is proud to continue on our mission to better protect athletes with a new aesthetic touch that has a classic helmet look."

With over 20 NFL players from different teams wearing Guardian Caps in games during the 2025 season, along with its debut in Super Bowl LX, the Guardian Cap NXT 2.0 is expected to be adopted by players, along with [Guardian's FLEX chinstraps](#), for the upcoming 2026 season.

To learn more about the Guardian Cap NXT 2.0, please visit guardiansports.com.

ABOUT GUARDIAN SPORTS

Founded in 2010, Guardian Sports is on a mission to better protect athletes at every level of play. Its flagship product, the Guardian Cap, was originally developed to reduce head impacts during football practice and has since expanded into game-day use across all levels of play. Guardian Sports also created the LOOP flag football headband, PEARL lacrosse balls, FLEX chinstrap, and bio-based turf INFILL. Trusted by athletes nationwide, Guardian continues to lead in safety-driven innovation. Learn more at www.guardiansports.com

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