

Webster Girls Softball

Head Lice Statement

- The head louse, or *Pediculus humanus capitis*, is a parasitic insect that can be found on the head, eyebrows and eyelashes of infected people.
- An estimated 6 to 12 million infestations occur each year in the United States.
- Head lice move by crawling; they cannot hop or fly. They are spread by direct contact with the hair of an infested person.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) the spread by contact with clothing (such as hats, helmets, coats) or other personal items used by an infested person is uncommon.

Webster Girls Softball understands the concern of parents regarding the prevention and spread of head lice to our athletes. Even though according to the CDC the spread of head lice from helmets is unlikely we acknowledge that some parents may wish to minimize the potential for such contact to occur.

WAA softball is a non profit organization with approximately 600 girls participating each year in the program. It is financially impractical for the organization to provide a helmet to each player. Individuals with ongoing concerns are encouraged to purchase their own equipment.

Helmets must have a facemask.

For further information about head lice visit the website <http://www.cdc.gov/lice/head/factsheet.html>.