BALL CAP FAQs

Q1: What is the difference between the Navy Ball Cap and the Command Ball Cap?

A1: The Navy Ball Cap will have “Navy” embroidered on the front of the ball Cap. The Command ball cap will have your command logo on the front in place of “Navy”. The Navy Ball cap is a sea bag issued item, considered the property of the Sailor, and is included in the annual Clothing Replacement Allowance for E6 and below personnel. The Command Ball Cap is considered organizational clothing, considered the property of the Navy, and is issued by the command.

Q2: What uniforms are authorized for wear with the Navy and Command Ball Caps?

A2: The Navy and Command Ball caps may be worn with the NWU Type I, II and III, Navy flight suits, navy blue coveralls, flame resistant coveralls and the Navy physical training uniform.

Q3: What type of funding may be used by commands to purchase Command Ball Caps?

A3: Command ball caps are organizational clothing that may be purchased utilizing the command OPTAR funds. Sailors may purchase command ball caps with their personal funds, just as they purchase command badges, patches, belt buckles and other permissible uniform items. However, since the Command Ball Cap is not a sea bag item, Sailors cannot be required to purchase the Command ball cap.

Q4: Are commands authorized to purchase the Navy Ball Cap?

A4: The Navy Ball Cap is a sea bag item issued to enlisted recruits during recruit training and supported annually via clothing replacement allowances for E1- E6 personnel. Navy ball caps are not organizational clothing and may not be purchased with command OMN / OPTAR funds.

Q5: For commands that do not have organizational clothing funding, how do they procure command ball caps?

A5: The funding source for organizational clothing is Operations and Maintenance, Navy funding (O&MN or OMN). OMN funding is also referred to as "Operating Target" or "OPTAR" funding, "Supplies and Equipage" or "S&E" funding, etc. OMN funding allocations are made from Budget Submitting Offices (BSOs) to all commands and activities, accordingly, every unit should have access to OMN funding to procure organizational clothing.

Q6: As organizational clothing, how should command ball caps be disposed of when no longer serviceable?

A6: In accordance with existing rules regarding organizational clothing, ball caps that have been issued to service members should in fact be returned to the issuing activity (i.e., supply division, etc.) when the issued ball cap is no longer serviceable. The issuing activity should destroy the unserviceable ball cap and issue a new ball cap.

Q7: What is the authorized color of the Command Ball Cap?

A7: The Command Ball Cap is standard Navy Blue. Ball Caps of a different color may be worn with the NWU by Command Training Teams during command drills and field exercises held in designated areas only and will be utilized to
provide visual identification of supervisors, controllers and safety observers. Training team ball caps may be and are only authorized during the training evolution.

Q8: Can a command have the command name on the back of the Command Ball Cap.

A8: No, the command name/logo will be on the front of the ball cap. If the individual’s name is affixed, it is centered on the back of the cap in sewn or embroidered letters. The lettering may be in traditional command colors. Authorized position held or rank titles (i.e., CO, XO, CMC, Plankowner, CHENG, OPS, DECK LCPO, etc.) or rank/rate with surname. Titles that are professional and in good taste may be centered on the back of the cap in sewn or embroidered letters and the lettering may be in traditional command colors. (Nicknames are not authorized.)

Q9: Can I wear the Command Ball Cap in civilian attire?

A9: The Command Ball Cap may be worn with civilian attire on or off base, without the insignia. Ball caps with titles (CO, XO, CMC, Plankowner, CHENG, OPS, Deck LCPO, etc.) are not authorized for wear with civilian attire.

Q10: What is the correct wear of the Navy and Command Ball Caps?

A10: Wear squarely on the head, with bottom edge parallel to and 1-1/2 inches above the eyebrows. Hair is not to protrude from the opening in the back of the ball cap, to include buns.