



Bat Check Protocol - 'How to check bats' at regional and national tournaments

Responsible:
SNZ Umpire in
Chief

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Version 1.4

Umpires will need a copy of the latest ISF/WBSC Approved Bat List, the ASA Approved Certified Bat List and the ASA Non-Approved Bat List with Certification Marks. These can be found on the SNZ Umpires' website.

ISF/WBSC Approved Bat List database at:

http://isfsoftball.org/english/rules_standards/certified_bats.asp

ASA Approved Certified Bat List database at:

<http://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/play-asa/certified-asa-equipment>

ASA Non-Approved Bat List at:

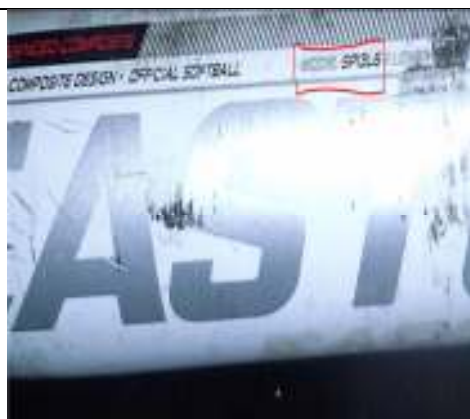
http://usa.asasoftball.com/e/build_batlist_one_page.asp



1. Locate on the bat the official **ASA certified stamp** (**ASA 2000** or **ASA 2004** for Fast Pitch) or the **ISF certified stamp** (note that beginning in 2015 **only** the **ISF 2005 "plate stamp"** will be accepted). The **ISF BPF 1.20 stamp** is no longer recognised.

- if the bat has no official certified stamp remove the bat, advise the team manager it does not meet official specification and will be held by the tournament office for the duration of the tournament. Collection of the bat can be made at the end of the tournament.

- Proceed to step two if the bat is official.



2. Locate on the bat the make and model number.
- if the make and model cannot be located, compare with other bats of similar markings and continue with step three.

- if the make and model cannot be located and cannot be compared with other bats of similar markings remove the bat, advise the team manager it does not meet official specification and will be held by the tournament office for the duration of the tournament. Collection of the bat can be made at the end of the tournament.

- Proceed to step three if the bat is official

ISF BAT STANDARD

Manufacturer	Model	Description	Date Added	Expires
Easton
...

3. Research the official ISF/WBSC and ASA bat list for the make and model number of the bat.
 - if the bat is not on either of the official bat lists remove the bat, advise the team manager it does not meet official specification and will be held by the tournament office for the duration of the tournament. Collection of the bat can be made at the end of the tournament.
 - Proceed to step four if the bat is official.



4. Check the bat is round and smooth. It should not have any exposed rivets, pins, rough or sharp edges and be free of burrs and cracks. It must be free of rattles and show no signs of tampering
 - if the bat is not compliant remove the bat, advise the team manager it does not meet official specification and will be held by the tournament office for the duration of the tournament. Collection of the bat can be made at the end of the tournament.
 - Proceed to step five if the bat complies.



5. Put the bat through the bat ring test to ensure the bat ring falls unaided.
 - if the bat is not compliant remove the bat, advise the team manager it does not meet official specification and will be held by the tournament office for the duration of the tournament. Collection of the bat can be made at the end of the tournament.
 - Proceed to step six if the bat complies.



6. Check the bat tape and the knob cone are compliant with rule book standard.
 - if the bat is not compliant, request the team manager to replace and return for further inspection. Remove any applied SNZ certification sticker prior to returning to team manager.
 - Proceed to step seven if the bat complies.





7. Where available, place bat through bat compression test to ensure bat meets rule book standards.
 - if the bat is not compliant remove the bat, advise the team manager it does not meet official specification and will be held by the tournament office for the duration of the tournament. Collection of the bat can be made at the end of the tournament.
 - Proceed to step eight if the bat complies.

8. Place an SNZ sticker on the bat and return to team manager. End of process.

Notes:

- Both the ISF and the ASA produce and maintain current Approved Bat Lists. These lists provide a reference point for determining the eligibility of a bat providing the bat has the official ISF and/or ASA stamps.
- Differences in bat model numbers are sometimes very slight, possibly only by a single number or letter. Please ensure the bat model number matches the list exactly before excluding a bat from play.
- Umpires are reminded that using a bat that is not approved by either ASA or ISF carries the penalty of an illegal bat (Rule 7, Sec. 6c).
- Note that the ISF 2005 “plate” certification stamp is the only one currently approved. The ISF no longer recognizes the older ISF “BPF 1.20” stamp.

Yours in Fastpitch Softball

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