

# Little League® Bat Rules

## General Information

Rule 1.10 of the Little League® Rule Book governs legal bats for all Little Leagues® around the globe. Beginning with the 2018 Spring Season, Little League International has adopted the USA Baseball bat standard, and bats marked with the BPF 1.15 standard are no longer legal for Little League play in any division. Below we have included a brief overview of the new bat standards for each division of play. For a full overview, please visit the Little League International website:

<https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/bat-rules/>

Little League® Approved Bat Markings	T-BALL BASEBALL USA T-BALL	USA BASEBALL	BPF CERTIFIED .50	USSSA 1.15 BPF
Tee Ball *	✓	✗	✗	✗
Coach Pitch	✗	✓	✗	✗
Machine Pitch	✗	✓	✗	✗
Minors AA	✗	✓	✗	✗
Minors AAA	✗	✓	✗	✗
Majors	✗	✓	✗	✗
Intermediate 50/70	✗	✓	✓	✗
Junior League**	✗	✓	✓	✗
Senior League	✗	✗	✓	✗

\* Older Tee Ball bats may be marked with an "Approved for Tee Ball" stamp.

\*\* When playing in a combined Junior/Senior division, Senior League rules will apply

## Penalty for Illegal Bat – Rule 6.06(d)

The batter is out for illegal action when the batter enters the batter's box with one or both feet entirely on the ground with an illegal bat or is discovered having used an illegal bat prior to the next player entering the batter's box. The ball is dead. Runners must return if they advanced on the play.

**Note:** If the infraction is discovered before the next player enters the batter's box following the turn at bat of the player who used an illegal bat:

- 1) The manager of the defense may advise the plate umpire of a decision to decline the penalty and accept the play.
- 2) For the first violation, the offensive team will lose one eligible adult base coach for the duration of the game. Any adult coach in the dugout may be used as the one adult base coach for the duration of the game.
- 3) For the second violation, the manager of the team will be ejected from the game. Any subsequent violation will result in the newly designated manager being ejected.

When an illegal bat is discovered, it MUST be removed from the game at that point.

## All Divisions

- The traditional batting donut is not permitted
- The use of pine tar or any other similar adhesive substance is prohibited
- 2-3/4" bats are prohibited in all levels of play

## Tee Ball

- Certified T-Ball Bat that carries the USA Baseball T-Ball marking or reads "Approved for Tee Ball"

## Coach Pitch, Machine Pitch, Minors, & Majors Divisions

- BPF 1.15 bats are prohibited

- All bats must be marked with the USA Baseball logo
- Bats shall not be more than 33" in length nor more than 2-5/8" in diameter
- If wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed sixteen (16) inches from the small end.
- **Note:** Tee Ball Bats are not approved for Coach Pitch or Machine Pitch Play since Tee Balls are not used in those divisions.

**NOTE:** Solid one-piece wood barrel bats do not require a USA Baseball logo.

## Intermediate 50/70 & Junior League Divisions

- BPF 1.15 bats are prohibited
- All bats must be marked with the USA Baseball logo or BBCOR logo
- BBCOR bats shall not weigh, numerically, more than three ounces less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 33-inch-long bat cannot weigh less than 30 ounces).
- BBCOR aluminum/alloy and composite bats shall be marked as to their material makeup being aluminum/alloy or composite.
- Bats shall not be more than 34" in length; nor more than 2-5/8" in diameter
- If wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed eighteen (18) inches from the small end.

**NOTE:** Solid one-piece wood barrel bats do not require a USA Baseball or BBCOR logo.

## Senior League Division

- All non-wood bats must carry the BBCOR logo
- Bats shall not weigh, numerically, more than three ounces less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 33-inch-long bat cannot weigh less than 30 ounces).
- Bats shall not be more than 36 inches in length, nor more than 2-5/8" in diameter
- If wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed eighteen (18) inches from the small end.
- Aluminum/alloy and composite bats shall be marked as to their material makeup being aluminum/alloy or composite.