

# Equipment Checklist

## Keep Your Players Safer

*Do you know what equipment is required for player safety on the field? Do you know which optional items can help keep players safer? Check out the following list for ideas and reminders.*

### REQUIRED PLAYER EQUIPMENT

#### Defense

- Athletic supporter** – all male players
- Metal, fiber, or plastic type cup** – all male catchers
- Catcher's helmet and mask**, with “dangling” throat guard; NO skull caps – all catchers; must be worn during pitcher warm-up, infield practice, while batter is in box
- Catcher's mitt** – all baseball catchers
- Chest protector and leg protectors** – all catchers; must be worn while batter is in box; long model chest protector required for Little League (Majors) and younger catchers

#### Offense

- Helmet meeting NOCSAE standards** – all batters, base runners, and players in coaches boxes
- Helmet chinstrap** – all helmets made to have chinstrap (with snap buttons, etc.)
- Regulation-sized ball** for the game and division being played; marked RS for regular season or RS-T for regular season and tournament in baseball
- Regulation-sized bat** – all batters; Little League (Majors) and younger baseball divisions must have bat marked with BPF 1.15 beginning in 2009
- Non-wood bats must have a grip of cork, tape, or composite material**, and must extend a minimum of 10 inches from the small end. Slippery tape is prohibited.

### REQUIRED FIELD EQUIPMENT

- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases that disengage from their anchors
- Pitcher's plate and home plate
- Players' benches behind protective fences
- Protective backstop and sideline fences

### OPTIONAL PLAYER EQUIPMENT

#### Defense

- Metal, fiber, or plastic type cup – any player, esp. infielders
- Pelvic protector – any female, esp. catchers
- Heart Guard/XO Heart Shield/Female Rib Guard – any defensive player, esp. pitchers, infielders
- Game-Face Safety Mask – any player, esp. infielders
- Goggles/shatterproof glasses – any player, esp. infielders or those with vision limitations

#### Offense

- Helmet** – adults in coaches boxes
- Helmet with Face Guards or C-Flap** meeting NOCSAE standards – all batters, esp. in younger divisions
- Mouth guard** – batters, defensive players
- Goggles/Shatterproof glasses** – any player, esp. those with vision limitations
- Batters vest/Heart Guard/Heart Shield/Female Rib Guard** – any batter
- Regulation-sized reduced impact ball**

### OPTIONAL FIELD EQUIPMENT

- Double 1<sup>st</sup> base that disengages from its anchor
- Baseball mound for pitcher's plate
- Portable pitchers baseball mound with pitcher's plate
- Protective/padded cover for fence tops
- Foul ball return in backstop fencing

### IMPORTANT:

## BPF RULE GOES INTO EFFECT FOR BASEBALL DIVISIONS

Buying bats for your league's baseball divisions? If it is composite metal, make sure it has the BPF 1.15 label. Bats in use in Little League Baseball (Majors Division and younger) must have the new bat performance factor listed on the bat.

Unless this marking is present, the bat will be removed from games.

Little League officials are aware some bats do not have the required markings but are Little League approved. And some of the bats on the approved bat list may not carry the required BPF 1.15 marking, depending on when they were manufactured and licensed.

Little League is building a list of bats that are approved but do not have the BPF marking due to special circumstances. For these bats, the eligibility for play will be extended until December 31, 2009. As Little League is made aware of bats that meet the BPF rule for this extension, the bats will be added to the list.

**ONLY bats with a BPF 1.15 marking or that are listed below will be allowed for use in the Little League (Majors) Baseball and younger divisions in 2009.**

**Non-BPF-marked bats approved until Dec. 31, 2009:**

**Adidas – Vanquish (blue design)** A newer model of this bat, also named Vanquish with copper and black markings, has the proper labeling, so is therefore not subject to the one-year rule.

**DeMarini – Black Coyote, Rogue, Distance, Rumble, Tengu, Mach 10, Patriot**

**Easton – LZ-810, LZ-800, Stealth Optiflex LST 1,**

**Louisville Slugger – YB31**

**NIKE – Areo**