

Illegal Bat rule

For 2018 P.O.N.Y sanctioned leagues such as MBSA have adopted to the new bat rules which state that all bats being used in boys baseball from Pinto level up to Pony level must now be stamped with the USA stamp which can be found on the bat just above the bat handle area or the barrel of the bat. In addition no bat can have a barrel measuring greater than 2 5/8". The older bats that were used in the past that were marked or stamped USSSA BPF 1.15 are now considered illegal bats.

Following are examples of what will occur in a game if a batter is found with an illegal bat:

- 1) If a batter gets on base using an illegal bat (NOT MARKED WITH THE USA STAMP), and the opposing team brings it to the attention of the umpire BEFORE the next pitch is thrown, the batter will be considered as an automatic out, and if any runners had advanced or scored as a result of the at bat, the runners will then be sent back to the bases they had previously occupied.
- 2) If a batter strikes out or makes any type of out while using the illegal bat, the opposing team would in that situation NOT appeal to the umpire, and the batter would be out.
- 3) If a batter was up to bat using an illegal bat, and the count was 1-1 for example, and the opposing manager came out to appeal to the umpire, the batter would still bat with the 1-1 count and would have to get a legal bat to continue his at bat in that situation.

NOTE: We are recommending and encouraging each manager to let all parents know of this rule change for SAFETY REASONS, and to make sure their son does not use or bring an illegal bat to their games. Also each manager should check each players bat prior to the game to also make sure they are stamped with the USA bat stamp.