



2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

Australian Fastpitch Shootout Competition Rules

The Australian Fastpitch Shootout are played under the current WBSC Official Fast pitch Softball Playing Rules including any Softball Australia Technical Bulletins.

The Tournament Management Committee consists of:
Australian Fastpitch Shootout Convenor - Karla Cailotto
Tournament Director - Darren Sibraa
Technical Committee - Tricia Sibraa
Tournament Chief Statistician - Mike and Lis Hannelly

1 Attendance at meeting and grounds

- 1.1 All teams must also be at the venue and ready to start 30 minutes prior to game schedule.
- 1.2 The Technical Meeting will be chaired by the Karla Cailotto Tournament Convenor and the Tournament Director Darren Sibraa, with representation from the Deputy Tournament Directors, Tricia Sibraa and Tournament Chief Statisticians Mike and Lis Hannelly.
- 1.3 Any changes to ground rules will be announced 30 minutes before the game when lineup cards are exchanged.
- 1.4 Teams are to be in their respective dugouts 20 minutes prior to the commencement of their game.

2 Balls

- 2.1 Balls for all games will be supplied by, and remain the property of, Australian Fastpitch Shootout. One ball will be given to each team for use by the pitcher at least 30 minutes before each game. The ball will be handed back to the plate umpire when requested before the game.

3 Bases

- 3.1 All bases and the pitching and home plate will be firmly secured. If pegs are used for bases, they must be completely covered by the base. Velcro attached bases must not be used. The double base should be two separate bases with the base in foul territory being of a contrasting colour.

4 Grounds

- 4.1 The TCU or nominated person will undertake a safety check of the grounds at least 1 week prior to the first game of the event.

5 Suspension of play

- 5.1 In the event of adverse weather, the TMC will decide whether a game will commence, be delayed, recorded as a regulation, or abandoned.
- 5.2 Once a game has commenced, if darkness, rain, storm, panic or other cause puts the players or patrons in peril the game will be suspended. The Plate Umpire will decide if a game is to be suspended.
- 5.3 Once the game is suspended (for other than a shower of rain), the plate umpire hands the responsibility over to the TMC. The TMC will decide when and if the game will resume.
- 5.4 A game temporarily suspended by the plate umpire for any reason without a result being determined under a "Regulation Game" will be resumed at the point where it was suspended using the original line-up during the round of play. Every effort should be made to complete round one with regulation games and then round two and so on.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

- 5.5 The TMC may decide to record a regulation game for any game suspended, that is regulation at the time of suspension (providing a result under the rules has been achieved), during any round in the interest of the tournament draw (and in the interest of completing the full round on a designated time frame if applicable).
- 5.6 If by the end of play for the day a suspended game has played for five or more innings with a result, or the team second at bat has scored more runs than the other team in four or more innings a regulation game will be recorded.

6 Barracking

- 6.1 Barracking is allowed from the benches but there must be no personal or disparaging remarks.

7 Smoking & consumption of alcohol

- 7.1 Smoking or the consumption of alcohol is not permitted on the benches or the field or whilst in uniform. Smoking includes the inhalation of tobacco products, e-cigarettes and vaping.
- 7.2 Any breaches to this may result in a player/official being ejected from the game and/or championship.

8 Toss

- 8.1 The home team is defined as the team that occupies 3rd base and fields first.
- 8.2 Where there is an uneven number of rounds of competition in the round robin, one person from each team will report to the TCU at the conclusion of the Technical Meeting for the toss to decide the 'home team'. The first named team on the official draw will call the toss.
- 8.3 Where there is an even number of rounds of competition in the round robin, there will be no requirement for the toss. The first named team on the official playing schedule will be the home team.
- 8.4 For all the first round of finals matches, the team that finished higher on the ladder will have the choice to be the home or away team (without toss).
- 8.5 For subsequent rounds of the finals series, TMC will determine for each game which team will have the choice to be the home or away team.

9 Warm-up

- 9.1 Each team may have a five-minute warm-up on the playing surface for their first scheduled game of the tournament. The 'home team' will have last warm-up and remain on the field for the start of the game, unless team announcements are made prior to the game when both teams will be required to vacate the diamond.
- 9.1.1 Teams will be allowed to warm up in the outfield only whilst ground maintenance staff are completing their work on the infield area.
- 9.1.2 Long-ball hitting cannot be undertaken, however throwing, bunting, pepper hitting, ground and fly ball fungo hitting or whiffle ball hitting are acceptable activities. All hitting must be done from foul territory toward centre field. Throwing and hitting off or on the foul ball lines is not permitted.
- 9.1.3 Pitchers must warm up in the outfield, pitching towards the home run fence.
- 9.1.4 Care should be taken where spectators are likely to be hit by wild throws or pitches.
- 9.2 During a game, pitchers should warm up in the outfield foul territory should be used, with the pitcher pitching away from the field of play. A minder with a glove should be stationed in a position to protect the pitcher and catcher facing the batter. The minder should verbalise and try to keep their players away from live ball plays. A maximum of four people may be in the outfield area.
- 9.3 Coaches will report for the pre-game meeting one minute before the scheduled start of the game. If there are to be announcements made, the meeting will take place five or more minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.

10 Introduction

- 10.1 For each Grand Final, the players and officials will be introduced to the public eight minutes before the game.
- 10.2 Where time does not permit for Grand Final introduction (eg. games delayed due to weather, incoming rain/storm etc) then they are not mandatory.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

11 Bench area

- 11.1 All team personnel who are participating in a game must remain within the designated 'bench area' throughout that game. This does not preclude the team manager/administrator leaving the bench area on matters concerning ice, injured/sick players, etc.
- 11.2 The bullpen or approved warm up areas are considered an extension of the bench area.
- 11.3 Team personnel who are involved in scouting/videoing/etc. outside the dugout whilst their team is playing must not be in uniform and must not be listed on the line-up card; they are not permitted to communicate with their team.
- 11.4 Players who are sick/injured and are not going to participate in a game:
 - must not be listed on the line-up card.
 - may be on the bench but must be in their playing uniform.
 - may be off the bench but must not be in their playing uniform.

12 eCommunication and filming

- 12.1 Teams are reminded that the rules of softball prohibit any form of communication equipment being taken on the field of play, which includes the dugout, and outside or inside the field of play with the dugout and or team. A breach of this will result in ejection of the head coach.
- 12.2 This includes smart watches. Should a team official wish to wear a watch they can do, however it must not be a smart watch.
- 12.3 There will be no filming directly behind the back nets behind home plate or any side angle (up to one side panel) visible to the rear of the plate by any competing team for individual team use.

Note: the back net and side panels should be marked to clearly identify the area. Filming may only occur behind the back nets if all competing teams are provided a copy of the film by midnight of the day the filming occurred.

13 Team statistics

- 13.1 A copy of tournament statistics, Tournament Batting, Tournament Pitching and each team's Batting and Pitching statistics must be emailed in pdf form to teams within 14 days after the conclusion of the Australian Fastpitch Shootout.
- 13.2 Teams that do not include a team statistician in their team rosters will not be provided individual statisticians daily during the Australian Fastpitch Shootout.

14 Line up cards

- 14.1 Line-up cards will be provided by Australian Fastpitch Shootout and will be distributed at the Technical Meeting. Each team will complete a line-up card for each game.
- 14.2 Each team will hand the original and one copy of the line-up card to the TD or their representative 30 minutes prior to the scheduled game time. The TCU or their representative will hand each team the copy of the opposing team's line-up.
- 14.3 When the line-up is submitted to the TCU or their representative before the game, the line-up must be signed by the Head Coach/Manager. Once submitted to the TCU or their representative, the line-up will be official.
- 14.4 When one of the two competing teams is playing the second game of a back-to-back double header, that team will hand the original and a copy of their line-up card to the TCU or their representative 30 minutes prior to the start of the second game or 20 minutes after the conclusion of the first game of the double header, whichever is the later.
- 14.5 The TCU or their representative will arrange for one copy of each line-up card to go to the TCS.
- 14.6 Changes to the official line-up may be made at the pre-game meeting in case of injury. However, the batting order must not be changed. Under no circumstances can a new line-up be presented at the pre-game meeting.

15 Forfeits

- 15.1 The score of a forfeited game will be 7-0 in favour of the team not at fault. All player statistics of a forfeited game will be included in the official records, except that of a pitcher's win-loss record.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

16 Results

- 16.1 Results of games at all championships will be determined in accordance with WBSC Official Playing Rules except as provided for in these championship rules.

17 Game management initiatives to reduce length of game times

17.1 Ball Rotation

- 17.1.1 When a ball leaves the playing field, it should be returned directly to the plate or base umpire or through a designated "ball return chute". Balls should not be returned to the defensive team field through the dug outs or thrown from the dead ball area to the field.
- 17.1.2 Players should not wait, or request time for the ball to be returned. (Effect: After a warning from the umpire a ball will be called on the batter)

17.2 On Deck Batter's Circle

- 17.2.1 The On Deck Batter may take a position in their team's on-deck circle, however that batter may take a position in the other on-deck circle so that they are behind the batter and not on the batter's open side.

17.3 Temporary Runner and Tiebreak runner

- 17.3.1 The **Temporary Runner MUST be used for the Catcher on record from the previous innings with 2 outs**, by any Eligible Player on the Line-up card, and not in the next four batters (*an eligible player is one who has not been removed and deemed ineligible*).

NOTE: If the Temporary Runner for the Catcher is not used, reported, or an incorrect player is used, this is a correctable situation. *Note: If the catcher on record from the previous innings has been replaced in the batting lineup at the start of a new innings, no temporary runner can be used, as there is no catcher from the previous innings still in the lineup.*

- 17.3.2 The **Temporary Runner for the Pitcher on record from the previous innings will be optional with 2 out**, the pitcher can be replaced on base, by any Eligible Player on the Line-up Card not in the next four batters. This is correctable.

Note: If the pitcher on record from the previous innings has been replaced in the batting lineup at the start of a new innings, no temporary runner can be used, as there is no pitcher from the previous innings still in the lineup.

- 17.3.3 The plate umpire must be notified that a TR is entering the game. The Plate Umpire will notify the Official Statistician/s.

- 17.3.4 Any statistics accrued by the TR while they are in the game are credited to that player.

17.4 Tiebreaker

- 17.4.1 Starting with the top of the 8th and 9th inning, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat ninth in that respective half-inning being placed on 2nd base. The player who is running can be substituted in accordance with the substitution rules.

- 17.4.2 Starting with the top of the 10th inning and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat ninth in that respective half-inning being placed on 3rd base. The player who is running can be substituted in accordance with the substitution rules.

- 17.4.3 If the incorrect Tiebreaker runner is placed on base they will be called out on proper appeal.

17.5 Between innings/change of innings timing

- 17.5.1 If in the umpire's judgment one minute has expired or is about to expire, the umpire will limit the pitcher to one warm-up pitch

- 17.5.2 When the catcher was at bat or the on deck batter, the defensive team should have a warm up catcher or a defensive player ready to take the warm up pitches or the umpire will limit the pitcher to one warm-up pitch.

- 17.5.3 The catcher and team coach should limit timeouts for the catcher to talk with the pitcher. The catcher should not delay the game by visiting the pitcher at each innings or during the game, delaying play, excluding the first innings and when the pitcher is substituted. (a) After a warning a conference may be called on the defensive team by the umpire.

17.6 Line up Substitution or Defensive Changes

- 17.6.1 Coaches should ensure they have the next inning substitutions or defensive changes to the plate umpire at the conclusion of the half innings. For continual breaches after a warning, the plate umpire may call a ball or strike on the offending team.

- 17.6.2 The coach should go to the plate umpire in the proximity of the official statisticians and give the changes to the plate umpire only.

- 17.6.3 When possible, the base umpire could advise the opposing team that changes are taking place.

- 17.6.4 If an official runner is available, the changes should be communicated to the teams as soon as possible. The team scorer or team member may go to the official statistician to get or clarify any change at any time.

- 17.6.5 Coaches should communicate the changes to the plate umpire in the following way.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

- a) Uniform number out
 - b) Uniform number in
 - c) Then defensive position changes
 - d) DP or Flex changes should include the words going to 9 players if applicable
 - e) If the DP is going to field, Number... Flex out, DP to defensive position....
 - f) If the Flex is coming into the game. DP out and Flex to DP
 - g) OPO. Uniform number to OPO, DP to fielding position....
 - h) Temporary runners should be announced, however the announcement of original player returning does not need to be, this is not considered a re-entry
 - i) Re-entries under the substitution rules must be announced when the starting player is re-entered
 - j) Multiple offence at bat changes cannot be made at the same time
 - k) Defensive changes can only be made during the defensive innings
- 17.6.6 Plate umpires should announce the team name to the statistician then follow the same process as above.
- 17.6.7 Statisticians should repeat the changes back to the Plate Umpire immediately to allow the plate umpire to confirm and get the game back underway.

18 Pitching

18.1 Pitching Distances for tournaments will be as follows:

Women's 13.11m (43ft.)

Men's 14.02m (46ft.)

19 Disruptions

19.1 Where there has been a major disruption to a championship, the determination of the winner of the championship will be left to the TMC. However, the TMC may decide that insufficient games have been played to declare a winner.

19.2 The following guidelines are for the assistance of the TMC:

19.2.1 Every attempt should be made to determine a winner through the playing of games, eg. a single elimination round of games

19.2.2 In the case of a single round-robin, if the round cannot be completed the winner should be decided on the games played. However, consideration must be given to the number of games each team has played.

19.2.3 In the case of a double round-robin, and the first round has been completed but the second round cannot be completed, and this could affect the final standings, the winner would be the team leading on points at the completion of the first round. If the first round has not been completed, the winner should be decided on the games played, taking into account the number of games each team has played. (refer 19.2.1 above)

19.2.4 If the finals series cannot be played, the winner will be the team leading on points at the end of the round-robin regardless of whether it is a single or double round robin.

19.2.5 If teams are equal on points at the completion of the round-robin, refer to the procedures set out in Rule 20.

19.2.6 Where only part of the finals series has been played, the results of those games can be considered in determining a winner. For example, if the Grand Final was not played, but a semi-final was played between teams first and second on the ladder, the winner of the major semi-final is declared the championship winner.

19.2.7 If not played under the Page System and an elimination series of finals is played the order of the teams for the finals will be determined by their final standings at the completion of the round-robin. Except where a team has earned the right to go straight to the Grand Final this team would be declared the championship winner

20 Positions for finals and resolution of ties

20.1 The following procedures will determine the position of teams for the final standings at the completion of the round-robin and resolve such positions in the event of a tie between two or more teams.

20.2 Two points will be awarded for each win in the round-robin games.

20.3 A tie exists when two or more teams have the same number of points at the completion of the round-robin games

20.4 A tie will be resolved by following the under mentioned procedures:

20.4.1 If two or more teams are tied on points, the team with the least runs scored against for the entire round-robin will take the higher ladder position.

20.4.2 In the case that two teams are tied on points and runs scored against, the team that won the first round-robin game between those two teams will take the higher ladder position.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

- 20.4.3 If three teams are tied on points and runs scored against, the head-to head results played between those three teams in the first round of the round-robin will be considered.
- Where one team has won both games against the other two teams it is tied with in the first round of the round-robin, this team will take the higher ladder position.
 - The next two ladder positions between the remaining two tied teams would be determined by the head-to-head game between those two teams in the first round of the round robin.
- 20.4.4 In the case that three or more teams are tied on points and runs scored against and the teams can't be separated by the head-to-head results in the first round of the round-robin, eg. each team has the same number of wins as the other teams they are tied with in the games played against each other, the positions will be determined by the final standings at the end of the first round of the round-robin (with points, then runs scored against as the determining factors).
- 20.4.5 If these teams are still tied (three or more teams tied on points, runs scored against and they can't be separated by head-to-head results in the first round and are tied on points and runs against at the end of the first round) then runners left on base in the games played between these teams will be used.
- The team with the highest number of runners left on base will be placed ahead of the others, the team with the second highest number of runners left on base will be placed ahead of the remaining teams, until two teams remain. The winner of the first round game of the round robin between these two teams will be ranked ahead of the other team.
- 20.4.6 Where runners left on base can't split the teams, the teams that are tied will have their team names placed in a hat and drawn out in positional order.

21 Game times

- 21.1 All games will start at the scheduled time.
- Exception 1:* For games played on the same diamond there will be at least 20 minutes between games.
- Exception 2:* When a team is playing consecutive games there will be a minimum of 30 minutes between games.
- 21.2 Where games are behind schedule they may be rescheduled or transferred to another diamond at the discretion of the TMC.

22 TCU and TD office and Umpires change area

- 22.1 Any member of a team should not enter the umpires change rooms or TD or TCU office unless invited or previously approved. For these regulations these areas will be considered under the same rules as a playing field in regard to conduct and penalties.

23 Protests/Rule Clarifications

- 23.1 A request for a Rule Clarification is not an official protest and may be made to the TCU or their nominated supervisor at any point during the game. If a team disputes a ruling, the coach should approach the umpire that has made the ruling for clarification, if the explanation is disputed the field umpires may get together to determine the correct ruling as crew. The TCU or nominated supervisor may help to clarify a rule at the back-net if required. As a crew they may bring the coach to the back-net to discuss quickly if required.
- 23.2 All official protests will be dealt with on the spot by the TCU or a person appointed by the TCU.

24 Ejection from a game

- 24.1 A team official must ensure any individual ejected from a game leaves the surrounding area immediately; this includes the game spectator area and any area that offers vision of the game.
- 24.1.1 In the event that the ejected individual is under-age, a team official is required to accompany the ejected player until the full completion of the game. A member of the TMC must ensure ejected individuals leave the area accordingly.
- 24.2 An officiating umpire may report any player or official for offensive conduct or language any time after a game has been called, in which case the reported individual will be required to appear before a tribunal. An Umpire's Report of Player/Official Game Ejection Form is included in Appendix 10
- 24.3 Should any player or official be ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct or offensive language, the umpire/s involved will submit a written report to the TCU as soon as possible after the conclusion of the game. A tribunal will be formed to hear the matter.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

24.4 The game schedule will not be changed or postponed while the TD plans, carries out and completes the tribunal. The ejected person will not participate in the tournament until the tribunal is heard, with the tribunal deciding the complete penalty, if applicable.

25 Code of Conduct breaches

25.1 Any individual participating in the Event may report a breach committed by a person of one or more of Softball Australia's Codes of Conduct.

25.1.1 Any reports must be submitted in writing to the TD on the 'Report of Code of Conduct Breach' form, which is included in Appendix 11.

25.2 The TD will decide if any further action is required, which can include a tribunal being convened to hear the matter or the matter being referred directly to Softball Australia, the National Sports Tribunal or Sport Integrity Australia for further action.

25.3 If a tribunal is convened the game schedule will not be changed or postponed while the TD plans, carries out and completes the tribunal. The reported person will not participate in the tournament until the tribunal is heard, with the tribunal deciding the complete penalty, if applicable.

26 Tribunal procedures

26.1 The TD will decide on the composition and timing of the tribunal. At times it will be appropriate for the members of the TMC to form the tribunal but at other times it will be appropriate for other suitably qualified personnel to consider the matter.

26.2 The TD will advise all relevant parties of the time and place the tribunal will take place. The reported individual is to be provided with a copy of the written report prior to the tribunal commencing and advised that the report is strictly confidential.

26.3 Both the person/s who submitted the report and the reported individual are entitled to have a support person present during the tribunal.

26.4 Once convened, the Chair will invite the person/s who submitted the report to confirm the report's details. Tribunal members may then ask questions to clarify their understanding of the events leading to the incident.

26.5 The tribunal will use their discretion to determine if the person/s who submitted the report are required to be present when the reported individual joins the tribunal.

26.6 The reported individual will then join the tribunal and the Chair will ensure the reported individual understands the content of the report. The individual will then be given the opportunity to accept, respond or give their version of events. If the tribunal has deemed it appropriate for the person/s who submitted the report to be present, the reported individual may ask questions of the person/s who submitted the report. At this point, tribunal members may ask questions of reported individual to clarify their understanding of the events leading to the incident.

26.7 Once the reported individual and person/s who submitted the report have given their version of events, the tribunal will meet in private to discuss evidence and determine what, if any, further action is required. In determining what action is required, previous penalties or game ejections of the individual will be taken into account. This information is provided to the TD prior to the Event. The TD will also be in possession of guidelines on penalties available to be administered by a tribunal.

26.8 The individual will be advised on actions deemed necessary, together with an explanation as to why penalties have been imposed.

26.9 If a penalty includes suspension from further games, the individual must be advised that they are not permitted to be in team uniform, on the bench or in contact with team members during the course of a game. They may, however, be allowed to practice and warm-up with the team.

26.10A decision by a tribunal to impose a penalty will be final and not subject to appeal. The tribunal will complete the official Report of Tribunal Hearing Form included in Appendix 12, and forward to Softball Australia post-Event.

26.11 If action against a participant is required, Softball Australia will advise the relevant state of the tribunal findings and action taken.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

26.12 If the tribunal is of the opinion that the conduct of the individual warrants further suspension/disqualification by a Softball Australia judiciary, a written report will be forwarded to Softball Australia for consideration. The individual concerned must be advised of this course of action when facing the tribunal. If Softball Australia determines a judiciary is required, a judiciary committee will be formed to investigate and recommend an appropriate course of action. Softball Australia has the right to review all decisions made by the Event tribunal in relation to penalties impacting further softball play.

27 Complaints, disputes and behavioural expectations

27.1 Any complaints or disputes shall be submitted in writing and submitted to the TD to be reviewed and considered by the TMC. Any complaint arising out of the event will be referred to Redlands Softball Association for consideration and where necessary, action within seven days of the conclusion of the Event.

27.2 The Host must forward a written report to TMC relating to any team that does not comply with these Competition Rules. TMC will consider and take action as necessary against any report.

27.3 *Where a team refuses to commence or continue a game, Australian Fastpitch Shootout has the authority to impose a fine of up to \$1,000, which must be paid by the offending team's state governing body within one month after completion of the Event. Any person, team or state dealt with under these Regulations will have the right to appeal to the Softball Australia Board of Directors.*

27.4 In addition to the Codes of Conduct, all participants should bring to the attention of game or Event officials, any concerns relating to the behaviour of participants. If a spectator excessively abuses a participant, the umpire should seek the team manager's assistance to help control the situation. If a spectator refuses to comply, the TMC or TD should be notified and play suspended until the situation has been rectified and is under control.

28 Duty of care

28.1 The TMC and team officials must ensure they are conversant with the following guidelines:

28.1.1 Adverse Weather Policy

28.1.2 Pregnancy Guidelines

28.1.3 Concussion Policy

28.1.4 Facility Management Guide

28.2 Where the heat policy is invoked under Softball Australia's Hot Weather Guidelines

28.2.1 Teams will be advised by the TCU when breaks will be taken, these may be at the completion of 5 innings if considered mid-range or 3rd and 5th innings in higher risk categories. In tie breakers it will be at the completion of 7 innings and every 2 innings after.

28.3 Where a serious injury occurs at the event, Softball Australia's Injury Report Form is to be completed to record the details of the incident.

28.3.1 The Injury Report Form template is included in Appendix 9 of these Regulations.

28.3.2 The TD is to liaise with the relevant Team Manager to provide them with a copy of the Injury Report Form

28.3.3 The Team Manager will provide a copy of the completed form to the TD, along with any other supporting medical documents.

28.3.4 Where a separate injury report form is completed by a medical practitioner that is not Softball Australia's Injury Report Form, but records the same/similar details, then Softball Australia's Injury Report Form does not need to be completed in addition.

28.4 In the case of concussion, written clearance from a medical practitioner must be provided to the TD before a participant can return to the field of play.

29 Approved and Non-Approved Bats and Batted Ball Speed (BBS) Test Certification

29.1 All bats used in Australian Championships shall comply with

- A bat will be approved for use in Australia if it is listed on the current WBSC-SD Certified Bat List; or
- Any bat not listed on the WBSC-SD Certified Bat List will be considered approved for use in Australia if it is listed on the current USA Softball Approved Bat List.

29.2 Compliance with this requirement rests with all participants of the game not just the umpires, as the practicality of checking bats with separate lists prior to all games at all levels is not feasible.

29.2.1 It is of utmost importance that players, coaches, parents, team managers and administrators, understand they play an important role in this requirement.

2025 AUSTRALIAN FASTPITCH SHOOTOUT COMPETITION RULES

- 29.2.2 Batted ball speed is the ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) International standard for human reaction time to a batted ball. Where available all bats will be checked for batted ball speed with an approved bat compression tester, as per TB-2017-2.1. Compliance with this certification requirement rests with all participants of the game not just the umpires, as the practicality of checking bats with separate lists prior to all games at all levels is not feasible.
- 29.3 Bats are continually being retested to ensure they comply with the international standards
- 29.4 The WBSC-SD BBS standard is 161 KPH (100 MPH); the USA Softball standard is 157.7 KPH (98 MPH)
- 29.5 If a bat cannot be identified due to the manufacturer's logo and model number being worn away, then the bat should be rejected.
- 29.6 The current BBS registered markings for certification are applied to the bats at manufacture.



- 29.7 Team management and players should ensure their team bats are checked prior to the championship and only bring bats that are on the certified lists to the tournament.
- 29.8 Any bat that cannot be identified or the manufacturer's model number is covered will be removed.
- 29.9 The bats will be checked prior to the first game for each team. The coach, manager and players should ensure all bats are presented for certification checking.
- 29.9.1 Any bat that does not pass certification checking is then held by the TCU until the tournament is completed.
- 29.10 Non-certified bats have been found in games following the initial inspection procedure either being mistakenly or deliberately not being presented for checking. This has resulted in a more formal process being implemented, with defined penalties for non-compliance, to protect participants specifically and the sport in general.
- 29.11 Any non-certified bats discovered during pre-game equipment checks will be taken to the TCU prior to the game commencing. The TCU will check these bats and will either certify the bat and return it to the team or retain the bat until after the tournament.
- 29.12 If a non-certified bat is detected or reported to the umpire at any point during a game, it will be treated the same as any protest and heard immediately. The bat will then be checked against the certification lists. If the bat is proven to be non-certified:
- 29.13 On the first occasion:
- 29.13.1 If prior to the batter completing their turn at bat, the batter will be called out, the play will be nullified if applicable, and the batter will be ejected from the game.
- 29.13.2 If after their turn at bat, the Batter Runner will be called out, any advance of runners will be nullified, any out made during the play remains out, and the Batter Runner will be ejected from the game.
- 29.13.3 On the second occurrence by any player of the same team during the championship the effects of (a) and (b) above will result and the Head Coach will be ejected from the game.
- 29.14 Where available all bats will be checked for batted ball speed with an approved bat compression tester, as per TB-2017-2.1.
- 29.15 References:
- The World Baseball Softball Confederation-SD bat list is on the WBSC website:
<https://static.wbsc.org/uploads/federations/0/cms/documents/a3a0fa06-f8bb-2951-b465-3d3661d656ed.pdf>
- The USA Softball bat list is available at:
https://www.teamusa.org/USASoftball/~/_link.aspx?id=015F4358A30B44368FC142350D112FFF&z=z

30 Metal cleats

- 30.1 Metal cleats can be worn