



Canadian Championship

Bat Check Protocol

Update: March 2015

Softball Canada accepts bats certified and approved by either the International Softball Federation (ISF) or the Amateur Softball Federation (ASA) for both Fast Pitch and Slo-Pitch play at all levels.

After consulting with the ASA and ISF on their current standards and protocols, we have established the following protocol for pre-game bat checks at Canadian Championships.

Protocol:

Umpires will need a copy of the latest ***ASA Non-Approved Bat List with Certification Marks*** and the latest ***ISF Approved Bat List***.

ASA one page downloadable at http://usa.asasoftball.com/e/build_batlist_one_page.asp
 ASA Detailed downloadable at http://usa.asasoftball.com/e/build_batlist_w_pics_2000.asp
 ISF Searchable database at http://isfsoftball.org/english/rules_standards/certified_bats.asp

Step	
1	Umpires will check for an appropriate ASA certification stamp (ASA 2000 or 2004 for FP; ASA 2000, 2004 or new ASA stamp - commonly referred to as ASA 2013 - for Slo-Pitch). If there is no stamp proceed to Step 4.
2	If there is an acceptable ASA stamp then the umpire should check the bat against the latest <i>ASA Non-Approved Bat List with Certification Marks</i> . If the bat does not appear on the ASA Non-Approved list it will be <u>approved</u> for use.
3	If the bat appears on the non-approved list proceed to Step 4.
4	The umpire will check for an ISF stamp. (<i>Note that beginning in 2015 only the ISF 2005 "plate" stamp will be accepted</i>) If there is no appropriate ISF or ASA stamp the bat will be deemed <u>ineligible</u> for use.

5	If there is an appropriate ISF certification stamp (ISF 2005 “plate” stamp), the umpire shall check the bat against the ISF Approved Bat List. If the bat does not appear on the list it will be deemed <u>ineligible</u> for use.
6	If the bat appears on the ISF Approved Bat List the bat will be <u>approved</u> for use.

Notes:

- *Both the ISF and the ASA produce and maintain current Approved Bat Lists. These lists will provide the final reference for determining the eligibility of a bat.*
- *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 altered bat (Rule 7, Sec. 6a).*
- *Note that the ISF 2005 “plate” certification stamp is the only one currently approved. The ISF (and Softball Canada) no longer recognizes the older ISF “BPF 1.20” stamp.*

Yours in softball,

Jeff Whipple
National Director of Umpires