

NEW BATS REQUIRED FOR 2018 SEASON

Little League has adopted the new USA Baseball Bat Standard (USABat). These new standards take effect January 1, 2018.

What this means to you? **ALL** non-wood bats used in Little League (T-Ball, "A", "AA", "AAA", Majors, and Juniors) during the 2017 and/or prior seasons are no longer acceptable for play or practice effective January 1, 2018. New bats will need to be purchased for your players. There is an exception for the T-Ball level only, but details are sketchy as of right now. Some wood bats are also affected.

How can you identify the new USABat approved bats? The bat companies are saying the new bats will be available in stores September 1, 2017. These are the printed labels that will appear on the new approved bats:



Can these new bats be used in the Fall Season? Only if they have a barrel diameter of 2 1/4". In 2018, the barrel diameter for Majors and below will be increased to a maximum of 2 5/8" in diameter. The larger barrel bats will not be legal for play until January 1, 2018. The bat companies are saying they will produce bats with USABat approval stamp in both 2 1/4" and 2 5/8" diameter. Most manufactures print the barrel diameter somewhere on the bat along with weight, etc.

For more information on the USA Baseball Bat Standard, please go to the following websites:

- [Little League Online](#) > Learn More > [Baseball Equipment & Merchandise](#) > Baseball Bat Information
- [Little League Online](#) > [Media](#) > [Little League News Archive](#) > [2015](#) > [May-August](#) > Little League® to Adopt New USA Baseball Bat Standard Starting with 2018 Season
- http://web.usabaseball.com/article.jsp?ymd=20150807&content_id=141742668&vkey=news_usab

If you have any questions, please contact Bill Siebler, Umpire-in-chief, at cnlluic@cox.net.