

Official Ruling 21-01

26" and Shorter Length Bats

4/16/2021

Prior to 2018, bat manufacturers produced and distributed 24", 25" and 26" bats for use in Tee Ball play only. In 2018, bat manufactures began producing bats using the new USA Baseball specifications. Today, bat manufacturers market two types of bats with lengths 26" and shorter and marked with the USA Baseball stamp.

Tee-Ball Bats

There is no guideline or requirement that Tee ball bats must be used with a tee, just that they must be used with an approved low compression baseball. USA Baseball bats that are stamped "*Only for use with approved tee balls*" can only be used with low compression baseballs in coach pitch play. Due to their construction if such Tee Ball bats are used with other than low compression baseballs, it will void the warranty on the bat and may damage the bat.

Leagues which schedule 6U games with coach pitchers and using Tee ball bats must use a low compression ball featured on the USA Baseball Approved Tee Ball List found at <https://usabat.com/approved-tee-balls/>. Most level 5 balls meet the criteria for low compression baseballs. These balls will work well for 6U coach pitch leagues while allowing 6U players to use 24", 25" and 26" tee ball bats in their coach pitch games.

26" and 27" USA Baseball Bats

In 2020, approved bat manufacturers began offering USA Baseball stamped bats in 26" and 27" lengths for use by players in leagues that opt to play with a regulation baseball and/or a low compression ball in their 6U age divisions. These bats can also be used in 8U Coach Pitch games.

Important! BPF 1.15 bats are not legal for use in any age division of Dixie Youth Baseball.



William Wade, Commissioner
Dixie Youth Baseball, Inc.