

MILTON NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE

NEW BAT RULE

For 2018, Little League International has adopted the USBAT standards. Information regarding the new bat standard can be found here: <https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/bat-information/>. The technical specifications are meant to promote safety and standardize bat performance.

All bats that were compliant in 2017 are now non-compliant. Milton National Little League has supplied each team with 2 complaint bats that meet the new standards. For anybody who wants to purchase their own bat, here is a complete list of bats approved through the USA Baseball Standard, [visit usabat.com](http://visit.usabat.com).

Here are some common questions that have been asked...

What about Tee Ball bats?

Unlike standard youth baseball bats, tee ball bats (lengths 26" and shorter) are not required to undergo lab testing to receive approval under the USABat Program. However, to be approved for play within the participating National Member Organizations, [tee ball bats](#) must feature the USA Baseball mark and accompanying text that reads *Only For Use With Approved Tee Balls*.

- a. Approved tee ball bats (26" and shorter) under USA Baseball will feature the USA Baseball mark.
- b. USA Baseball will make a sticker program available that will allow stickers to mark personal tee ball bats that were purchased prior to the implementation of the USA Baseball Bat Standard. Milton National Little League has purchased stickers for this purpose.

What about Wooden bats?

Wood bats for Little League play will be affected by USA Baseball's bat standard. Here is how:

- a. Solid, one-piece wood bats will be allowed with or without the USA Baseball mark.
- b. Multi-piece wood bats must have the USA Baseball mark in order to be allowed.

What about Big Barrel Bats?

In accordance with the new standard, Little League will also allow players to use a bat with either a 2 1/4 inch or 2 5/8 inch barrel diameter, as long as it bears the new “USA Baseball” stamp.

GAME PROCEDURE

Milton National Little League will adopt the following procedure for all levels:

Before every game the coach will have the players line up their bats outside the dugout for inspection. The coach will inspect each bat for the following logo that symbolizes compliance.



http://dwxywuoa786l.cloudfront.net/files/3/e/5/3e515268efd9cfbcbd97f436ffe7069d_article_image_198483-640.jpg

The logo must be located in the following position as mandated by Little League International:



https://ecdn.liveclicker.net/8079A8/origin/thumbnails/2615/1066623350_1_Flv_512x288_thumb_2.jpg

Any bat that does not display the appropriate markings must be removed from the field of play, including the dugout and on deck area.

ENFORCEMENT

The consequence of failing to follow the new standard will be the following:

- 1.) If a non-standard bat is found in the field of play including the dugout or on deck area.
 - a. The bat will be removed immediately.

- 2.) If a bat is discovered to be in use...
 - a. The batter will forfeit his at bat and the team will be assessed an out
 - b. The coach of the offending team will be ejected from that game.

- 3.) If a bat is discovered in the field of play but not currently in use...
 - a. The coach is required to report the discovery to the umpire and the opposing coach
 - b. The coach will be assessed a warning. A second warning will result in an ejection
 - c. Any result from a previous use will stand.

If you have any questions, please ask your Division Coordinator or an MNLL official