

Spring 2011

Little League International has placed a moratorium on the use of composite bats in the Little League (Majors) Division and all other baseball divisions of Little League, effective immediately.

"Today's decision of the Little League International Board of Directors Executive Committee is based on scientific research data from the University of Massachusetts (Lowell), which was contracted by Little League Baseball," Stephen D. Keener, President and Chief Executive Officer of Little League Baseball and Softball, said on December 30, 2010. "The maximum performance standard for non-wood bats in the divisions for 12-year-olds and below is a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15. The research found that composite bats, while they may meet the standard when new, can exceed that standard after a break-in process."

At present, some composite bats for the Little League (Majors) Division and below have received a waiver – please see the link at the bottom of this article! If and when any models do receive a waiver, Little League International will inform its leagues of that decision.

Effective immediately, all composite bats are banned for tryouts, practices, games, and all Little League events associated with San Mateo National Little League.

We have received several inquiries regarding tryouts and the new LL bat rules, and wanted to confirm the following information:

- If you are unsure about your bat, please check your bat and make sure that:
 - o - It complies with the BPF 1.15 designation (the bat MUST be marked)
 - o - It does NOT have Composite material on any part of the barrel
 - o - If it states "alloy" then it is OK
 - o - If there is composite on the handle that is OK

HERE IS AN IMPORTANT LINK TO THE LITTLE LEAGUE WEBSITE FOR AN UPDATE ON THE BAT MORATORIUM:

http://www.littleleague.org/media/newsarchive/2011/Jan-Apr/TestingResultson2-1_4InchCompositeBats.htm