

TO BE LEGAL FOR **Eric Metzler Baseball League**, the **BAT** MUST BE
MANUFACTURED BY AN APPROVED **USSSA BAT** LICENSEE AND 1) HAVE THE
NEW **USA stamp** on it , OR 2) BE A QUALIFIED **BBCOR.50 BAT**, OR 3) BE A **WOOD BAT**.



What You Need To Know About The New USABat Standard For Youth Baseball

We've been getting a lot of questions lately about the new bat-performance standard that's coming to youth baseball next season. The so-called "USABat" standard doesn't take effect until Jan. 1, 2018, but it's already having broad ramifications for manufacturers, retailers, coaches, parents, and players.

Below, we've compiled answers to some of your most common questions, so that you can successfully navigate the transition and identify the right bat for your child and when to buy it.

Q: What is changing?

A: USA Baseball, the sport's national governing body, is adopting a new performance standard for youth baseball bats. You'll hear this referred to as the USABat standard, or simply, USABat.

Q: What does this mean?

A: The USABat standard replaces the existing 1.15 Bat Performance Factor (BPF) standard. Both establish limits on barrel performance, but the USABat standard mandates a more wood-like performance than 1.15 BPF.

Q: Which organizations are adopting the USABat standard?

A: If your child is 14 or under next season and playing recreational baseball in one of the large, national member organizations of USA Baseball, he or she likely will be affected by the change. To date, the following organizations have said they will implement the USABat standard for next season. Ultimately, however, you should confirm this by contacting the local league in which your child will be playing.

- American Amateur Baseball Congress (AABC)
- Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)
- Babe Ruth Baseball/Cal Ripken Baseball
- Dixie Youth Baseball
- Little League Baseball