



MEMORANDUM

December 13, 2021

VIA EMAIL

TO: Softball Conference Commissioners, Directors of Athletics, Senior Woman Administrators at Conferences and Institutions and Head Coaches.

FROM: Dee Abrahamson, equipment consultant
NCAA Softball Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: NCAA Approved Softball Bat List and Mandatory Barrel Compression Testing Reminder.

The most recent NCAA Approved Softball Bat List has been released. In addition, the NCAA Softball Rules Committee would like to remind the membership that regular-season barrel compression testing will be required for all NCAA competitions beginning January 1, 2022.

1. Bat List. The most recent NCAA Approved Softball Bat List has been posted on the NCAA Softball Home Plate at www.sup.arbitersports.com and on [NCAA Softball Rules of the Game](#).

The other planned Approved Softball Bat List distribution date for the 2021-22 academic year is April 11 at 9 a.m. Eastern time. Additional lists will be posted if timely information warrants, such as when a manufacturer withdraws a bat model or the results of bat testing dictate assessing strikes against and/or removing a model.

When reviewing the NCAA Approved Softball Bat List, please note that a model on the list with a strike(s) may be used in competition. Coaches are reminded they are responsible for legally equipping their team, and bats used in competition MUST appear on the current approved bat list. Regardless of when barrel compression testing occurs, on-field bat inspections will be checked before every game. Any time a bat is removed from a team's possession at competition, whether through barrel compression testing or by an umpire, the Softball Noncompliant/Inappropriate Bat form must be filed. Please refer to the NCAA Softball Bat Testing and Compliance Information for a more detailed explanation of the process. The form and testing/compliance information are both available on the NCAA Softball Home Plate and NCAA playing rules websites at the links above.

2. Mandatory Regular-Season Barrel Compression Testing (BCT). As a reminder, regular-season BCT will be required for all NCAA competitions beginning January 1, 2022. This necessitates purchasing the required equipment, including the G4 SSL NCAA Softball Bat Compression Testing unit available at www.barrelcompression.com and a sufficient number of destructible bat stickers. Please note, the NCAA softball testing unit differs from both the NCAA baseball testing unit and the USSSA softball testing unit. Information on BCT required equipment and protocol guidelines is available in the [NCAA Softball Bat Compliance and Testing Information](#).

If you have any questions about bats/equipment or the BCT required equipment/protocol, please contact me at abrahamson@niu.edu.

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cc: Ms. Carol Bruggeman
NCAA Softball Rules Committee
NCAA Registered Softball Umpires
Selected NCAA Staff Members