

## Technical Bulletin

**Subject:** Bat Compression Testing Process for Softball Australia Championships TB\_2017-2 v2.3

**Date:** 30 November - 2019

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### 2017 and beyond bat compression testing process for Softball Australia Championships

Reference to **TB 2017-1 Revised v3.4**

1. Check that the bat meets all the requirements of the official rules. Appendix 2 of the Official Softball Rules.
  - 1.1. Including checking for dents, cracks, burrs, handle tape, handle tape length, knob protrusion, no cones or extra tape at knob end, a secure end cap, no pine tar on the barrel, free of rattles and show no signs of tampering.
2. Ensure the official bat ring passes over the bat.
3. Check there is an area to apply a certification sticker on the upper part of the bat free of pine tar to ensure the sticker does not come off without the sticker parting. The sticker is applied on the tapered upper part of the bat, below the handle, and not on the hitting section of the barrel.
4. The bat must display the approved logo of either the 2005 ISF logo, WBSC logo or the ASA 2004 or USA 2013 logo.
5. The bat must be on the approved WBSC–SD or USA Softball certified bat lists.

Note 1: If the bat does not conform to any of the above reject the bat, explain to the team official why it does not pass initial inspection. Some items may be correctable, if so, give the bat back and allow the team official to return the bat later for certification.

6. Check the bat by passing the bat through the Bat Compression Tester, it must show a reading of 1460 or higher.

Non-Linear bats: A non-linear bat is a bat whose structure deviates from the traditional single wall, multi wall and/or layered composite designs. 'Non Linear' may be marked on the bat. The PSI standard is lower, it is 1050 - 1150, check the WBSC and USA Softball website for a list of non-linear bats.

7. Place the Softball Australia certification sticker to the bat so that it will adhere in such a way that if the sticker is removed it will separate.

Note 3: Bats that do not pass compression or certification must be kept until the end of the tournament.

8. For bats that have an approved logo but are not on the WBSC or USA bat list the TCU will contact the Technical Umpire in Chief who will confirm. The owner of the bat may contact the retailer or manufacturer to check why it is not on official list.
9. The calibration of the bat testing machine should be checked according to the instructions, prior to the official test. It must be with 100 psi of the control reading.

### Using the Testing Equipment

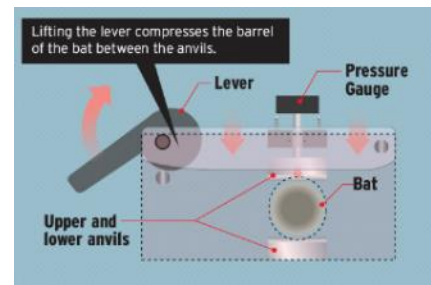
First attach the metal stopper. Then insert the bat fully into the tester up to the metal stopper that must be attached. Holding the black handle in, screw down the gauge until it reads a pre-set pressure of 500 on the dial. Pull the handle up and if the bat reads 1460 or over it is legal and can be used. If the reading is under 1460 it is illegal and cannot be used. If close to 1460 but under, release the gauge, turn the bat one quarter of a turn and test again. If under 1460 it fails, no need to retest.

Note section 6 above for non-linear bats

Note: Do not rest your hand on the machine frame when testing as it can cause an incorrect compression measurement.

### Make a record of those Bats that did not meet certification and compression testing.

All bats that do not meet the certification check and/or compression testing will listed on the standard TCU tournament form and sent to Softball Australia with the TCU's report and also sent by Softball Australia to the State Bodies for their information.



For instructional video information please visit the links below, noting that WBSC compression specification is 1460 PSI:

<http://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/play-usa-softball/certified-usa-softball-equipment/bat-testing-educational-video>

Also visit [www.barrelcompression.com](http://www.barrelcompression.com)

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This is an Approved Softball Australia Technical Bulletin for use in Australia and is current as of 30/11/2019.

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