



# BAT RULES EXPLAINED



### BASEBALL ONTARIO BAT RULES EXPLAINED

The charts on this page indicate which bats are permitted at each level of play in Baseball Ontario in 2022.

Baseball Ontario does not mandate bat certification (ie: BBCOR, USSSA, USAB, etc) except that **all non-wood bats** must have a visible manufacturer's stamp with the length-to-weight differential (drop) clearly identified.

Wood bats include bamboo bats, wood bats with fibreglass sheathing, and wood-barrelled bats with composite handles. Wood composite bats must not have any metallic component. Wood and wood-composite bats are permitted at **all** levels of play.

**NOTE:** At all levels of play, and regardless of material used, the maximum legal diameter of a bat in Baseball Ontario is **2-3/4"**.

Rep Rule changes for 2022 are highlighted in red on the Rep bat requirement chart.

## 2022 REP BAT REQUIREMENTS

AGE	MATERIAL	DROP
8U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	No limit
9U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	No limit
10U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	No limit
11U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	No limit
12U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	-10 Max
13U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	-10 Max
14U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	-5 Max
15U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	-5 Max
16U	Wood only	No limit
18U	Wood only	No limit
22U	Wood only	No limit
Senior	Wood only	No limit

## SELECT BAT REQUIREMENTS

AGE	MATERIAL	DROP
9U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	No limit
11U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	No limit
13U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	No limit
15U	Wood	No limit
	Non-wood	-5 Max
18U	Wood only	No limit
22U	Wood only	No limit

Note: Rule changes for 2022 are highlighted in red



## BASEBALL BAT TERMINOLOGY

- BBCOR** BBCOR stands for Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution. BBCOR is a baseball bat performance standard developed by the NCAA to certify the performance of non-wood baseball bats used in competition. All BBCOR certified bats feature a -3 length-to-weight differential, making them heavier than a -10 or -5 bat. BBCOR bats are permitted at any level that permits a non-wood bat.
- Composite** Composite wood bats are multi-piece wood bats or the sawdust from bats pressed, glued and combined. Often composite (plastic) pieces help form the inside of the bat. Composite wood bats may also have a fibreglass sheathing on the outside of the barrel to protect the bat from splintering or breaking. Composite wood bats are designed to be more resilient than wood bats. Composite wood bats are permitted at all levels of Baseball Ontario play as long as they do not have any metallic component in the bat.
- Drop** Also known as length-to-weight differential, the drop of a bat is indicated on a non-wood bat as a minus number (ie: -3). Essentially, the lower the drop number, the heavier the bat is, therefore a -3 is heavier than a -5 which is heavier than a -10 bat. This is the only standard that Baseball Ontario requires for non-wood bats.
- USAB** Developed by USA Baseball in 2018, the USAB standard creates a more wood-like performance for non-wood bats. Non-wood bats with the USA Baseball logo are permitted for Baseball Ontario use where non-wood bats are allowed as long as the length-to-weight differential identified on the bat matches the permitted drop for the age category of the player. USAB bats are designed to make the bat easier to swing with an exit speed of the ball off the bat that is roughly the same as a wood bat.
- USSSA** Developed in 2005, USSSA bats are identified with a "USSSA 1.15 BPF" stamp. BPF stands for Bat Performance Factor which is similar to how BBCOR bats are measured, however come in a variety of bat drops. USSSA bats are typically heavier than USAB bats and the exit speed of the baseball is typically faster than that of a wood bat. USSSA bats are made to optimize hitting. Non-wood USSSA bats can be used in Baseball Ontario play where non-wood bats are allowed as long as the length-weight differential identified on the bat matches the permitted bat drop for the age category of the player.
- Wood** Wood bats are made of a single piece of wood, usually maple, ash, or birch, though bamboo bats are also common. Wood bats are permitted at all levels of Baseball Ontario play.