

Spring-Klein Sports Association – Adult Softball’s Altered or Illegal Bat Policy

Effective: January 1, 2011

If Spring Klein Sports Association (hereafter “SKSA”), an umpire or any player, feels that an “altered” or “illegal” bat (as defined in accordance with the applicable softball governing body) is being used, SKSA and its umpires, at their discretion, have the right to inspect the bat and determine if it can be used. It is the burden of the user of the bat to establish that the bat is legal. If the user is unable or unwilling to establish the bats legality when asked, the bat shall be deemed to be illegal. If it is determined that the bat has been altered or is illegal, SKSA in its sole discretion may suspend the offending player, the bat owner or the team from playing at SKSA, in either league play and/or tournaments.

The user of the bat is responsible to know whether a bat is altered/illegal. Violation of this policy will be implemented without regard to whether the bat user knew the bat was altered/illegal. The fact that the individual did not know that the bat was altered/illegal will not be a factor in imposing a suspension.

In addition to the rules and policies of the governing sanctioning bodies, altered bats are those which (1) had the surface of the barrel or the taper changed in any way such as by sandpapering or applying a solvent to the surface such as fingernail polish remover or by any other means, (2) had the plug removed/replaced or changed, (3) had the knob removed/replaced or changed, (4) had anything removed or added to the inside or outside of the bat other than tape at the handle or knob, (5) are subjected to pressure in any manner that exceeds that of striking the bat again an approved ball traveling at game like speeds and such excessive pressure would include, but is not limited to, any compression, rolling, placing in a vice, or hitting a stationary object such as a pole.

Cracked, worn (paint/lettering wear is not a problem so long as the bat can be identified and has the appropriate BPF marking, but any wearing of the bat material or identifying paint or BPF wear will be cause for removal) or damaged bats are not altered bats, but will also be subject to removal from play by SKSA or the umpires. Such cracked, worn or damaged bats will not result in a player suspension, unless the player or team returns the offending bat into play after it has been removed or the bat is also altered.

If you do not like this policy, then please play at another facility.

This policy may also be implemented on any ball that may be suspicious of being altered or illegal.