



**NCAA BASEBALL BAT TESTING AND CONTRASTING BARREL
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
FEBRUARY 2020**

How will bats be identified as passing at neutral site events?

Bats must be tested and identified as passing. Bats can be identified by a sticker or other marking in the taper area. This should be provided by the event or identified by the team to their opponents if a neutral site event is not providing a test sticker.

Who is responsible for bat testing stickers during non-conference competition?

The playing rule does not specifically state that one team is responsible for providing the sticker during non-conference competition. A best practice would be for teams to sticker their opponent's bats to verify that testing was conducted with both teams present.

Testing must be conducted prior to the start of a series. Can a new bat be tested after the first game of a series?

If the testing equipment is available, it would be reasonable to consider testing new/additional bats in subsequent days of a series. Note that a representative from both teams must present to conduct the testing to verify the testing result.

What defines a "team representative" for the purpose of bat testing? Can this be an injured student-athlete, athletic trainer, manager, administrator, etc.?

The playing rule intentionally did not list specific individuals that can be a "team representative." It is the responsibility of the team to ensure that their bats are properly tested.

What is the penalty for using an untested bat?

Using an untested bat during competition is considered using an illegal bat. NCAA Baseball Rule 1.12.b PENALTY notes the following, "...If such an illegal bat is detected before the first pitch, the batter shall be called out and the bat shall be removed for the game. If an illegal bat is detected after the first pitch, legal or illegal, the batter shall be declared out, and base runners shall not advance as a result of a batted ball. The bat shall be removed from the contest.

If a player or team has a bat that is on the NCAA Prohibited BBCOR Baseball Bat list, can the player or team simply paint their non-compliant bat to meet the playing rule?

No. A bat model that is on the NCAA Prohibited BBCOR Baseball Bat list, is not permitted to be used in play. A bat cannot be painted to be legal. Paint cannot be added to the barrel of a bat, as this would violate NCAA Baseball Rule 1.12.e, "...No foreign substance that will in any way discolor the ball may be added to the surface of the bat beyond 18 inches from the end of the handle."