

EQUIPMENT

Below are the general guidelines for approved equipment. If not covered below then please refer to the NFHS baseball rules or the ASA rules for softball. Any equipment judged by the umpire to be potentially dangerous is illegal.

BAT

- **As of January 1, 2018, the new USA Baseball Bat Standard was implemented. USA Bat Standard bats must be used in the Little League Major Baseball Division and below.**
- **Either USA Bat Standard bats or BBCOR bats must be used at the Intermediate (50/70) Baseball and Junior League Baseball Divisions. At the Senior League Baseball Division, all bats must be meet the BBCOR standard.**

HELMET

It is mandatory for on-deck batters, batters, runners, retired runners, players/students in the coaches' boxes as well as non-adult bat/ball shaggers to wear a batting helmet that meets the NOCSAE standard. The batting helmet shall have extended ear flaps that cover both ears and temples and also display the NOCSAE stamp and the exterior warning statement. The warning statement may be affixed to the helmet in sticker form, or it may be embossed at the time of manufacture.

1. Face guards permanently attached to the NOCSAE helmet are required for ALL SOFTBALL and the Coach Pitch and Rookie Division.
2. Chin Straps are required for ALL SOFTBALL DIVISIONS.

PENALTY: When an umpire observes anyone who is required to wear a batting helmet deliberately remove his batting helmet while in live-ball territory and the ball is live (non-adult ball/bat shaggers required to wear batting helmet in live-ball area even if ball is dead), the umpire shall issue a warning to the coach of the involved team, unless the ball becomes dead without being touched by a fielder or, after being touched, goes directly to dead-ball area. A subsequent violation of the rule MAY result in ejection.

CATCHER

1. The catcher shall wear, in addition to a head protector, a mask with a throat protector, body protector, protective cup (male only), and baseball protective shin guards.
2. The catcher's helmet and mask combination shall meet the NOCSAE standard. Any helmet or helmet and mask combination shall have full ear protection (dual ear flaps). A throat protector, which is either a part of or attached to the catcher's mask, is mandatory. A throat protector shall adequately cover the throat.
3. While in a crouch position, any non-adult warming up a pitcher at any location shall wear a head protector, a mask with a throat protector and a protective cup (male only).