



Memorandum for European Softball Competitions, 2017

The games of ESF Competitions shall be played in accordance with I.S.F. Playing Rules and Technical Code (2014-2017 edition) unless otherwise stated in ESF Competitions Regulations or in this Memorandum. App 1: Bats / App 2: Disciplinary

Particular attention is drawn to the following rules and regulations:

- **ID Control:** As soon as possible after the ID control, each team's Official Competition Rosters (containing full names and all uniform numbers) will be posted on the ESF Competition website, with hard copy provided on request.
- **Contact information:** Each team must provide comprehensive contact details so they can be contacted when necessary.
- **Schedule:** The Technical Committee reserves the right to change the game schedule during the Competition as appropriate, e.g. in case of problems concerning the weather, and will make every effort to contact affected teams via the ESF website, e-mails and mobile / SMS.
- **Teams are expected to acknowledge receipt of any notification of schedule changes.**
- **No BATTING PRACTICE** on playing fields.
- **Official batting order:** 60 minutes before the scheduled start of the game, the teams shall hand in the yellow copy of the "Official Line-up Form" (duly completed – for each player: name, surname, uniform number, and playing position **printed legibly**) to the official scorers. A game ball will be provided to the team at that time. During the pre-game meeting with the umpires at home plate before the game, each manager shall give the white to the plate umpire + the pink copy for the opposing manager.
- **Pitcher Warm Ups after entering field:** - when it is not possible outside the field, the pitcher and catcher (in FP, with mask) may warm up in foul territory, beyond the dugouts, throwing away from the Home Plate.
- During any **IN-GAME warm-ups in foul territory**, a safety player (spotter) with a glove must protect them from being hit by a ball.
- **Ejections:** An ejected player / coach will immediately be escorted away from the field by an official. They must remove their uniform (at least the shirt).
- **Disciplinary procedures following all ejections:** All managers and players should be familiar with the current policies. Previous ejections will be taken into account during TC consideration of any subsequent occurrence, and penalties not completed during this event will be carried forward to the next ESF Competition which the player enters. (See Disciplinary Regulations at <http://www.europeansoftball.org/documents/?category=3> and Appendix (extract) below)
- **Protests (ESF CR 12.01 et seq.):** Protests concerning a game must be handed to the T.C. in writing no later than 15 minutes after the end of the game.
- **Tie-Break Resolution:** ESF 2017 procedure in the case of three or more teams tied on points, where the results of the games amongst themselves do not resolve the tie, will be to rank the teams by Runs Against in the games amongst themselves. The team with fewest Runs Against shall be ranked First and so on.

Mike Jennings

ESF Competition and Technical Director

APPENDIX 1: Bats used in ESF Competitions 2017:

Bats used in ESF Competitions must have the current ISF logo **and / or** the ASA 2000 Certification Mark, ASA 2004 Certification Mark, or ASA 2013 Certification Mark (Slow Pitch, Men's Adult Fast Pitch, Junior Olympic Boy's Fast Pitch and Men's Modified only), as shown below and must **not** be listed on the Non-Approved Bat List with 2000 or 2004 Certification Mark. Please check the list carefully: several bats have been added since 2016. Bats on that list cannot be ESF approved. Reference link is: http://usa.asasoftball.com/e/build_batlist_one_page.asp



All participating teams must bring to the TC Meeting all the bats they desire to use, listed on a Bat Control Form. Bat Control will NOT commence until the complete list is available to the Bat Check group. The umpires of the tournament will examine all bats for legality. Bats that are deemed to be compliant with the requirements will have all previous ESF labels removed and a current label affixed to the handle, just above the safety grip. The labels will clearly identify the bat as being “approved” for use.

(TR 06.02.01: A bat not approved may be retained by the team but must not be brought into the Dugouts at any time throughout the Competition).

If new bats are purchased during the competition or arrive AFTER the bat control held during the TC meeting, their owners will need to make an appointment with the UiC to have the bat examined and labeled as appropriate. ONLY the UiC will be empowered to check bats during the tournament, so teams are responsible to know where the UiC is and organize a meeting. A bat cannot be used, even if legal, without the ESF 2017 sticker.

Please be aware that before ANY game, the umpires may come to dugouts to execute a further bat and helmets check.

Only bats with “approved” labels on will be allowed in the dugout.

A bat without a label will be considered an *Altered Bat* and will be removed from the game.

If the bat is found in the dugout the Head Coach will be ejected from the game.

Any batter detected using an unlabeled bat will be subject to Rule 7.6.b – the batter is out and ejected.

During a game, if an illegal bat is found to have an “approved” label on it, but there is evidence of tampering with the bat label, this will be treated as an act of extreme unsportsmanlike conduct and will result in the ejection from the game, and suspension from further participation in the competition, of the Head Coach of the team whose player / players have been found using such a bat. (The Bat Control List will be checked before any penalty is imposed, to confirm whether the bat itself was recorded as passing the original Bat Control examination or not.)

APPENDIX 2: Disciplinary Procedures: ESF Regs: Para 7 Extract

7. Infractions during tournaments:

a. By players, coaches, managers or other team members on the playing field during a game.

Only the umpire crew can take decisions for infractions on the field during a game.

In the case of any ejection of a team member the umpire will submit a completed ESF Ejection Report to the game TC member, who will then determine what minimum sanction, if any, is required by ESF Disciplinary Regulations.

A technical ejection – penalty for illegal re-entry etc – will not be grounds for further sanctions under para 7.a. An ejection falling under the category ‘Other Infractions’ may not require further sanction.

The TC member will as soon as possible inform the Manager that the ejected player is subject to the minimum penalty as required by the Appendix and that the incident will be reported to the Technical Commission to determine whether any further sanction is to be applied.

The Report, with a note of the minimum sanction already applied, will then be promptly submitted to the Technical Commission to consider whether any further sanction should be imposed

If the Commission decide that no further sanction is required, the Manager of the ejected player's team will be so informed. If a further sanction has been determined, then a written Statement of that sanction will be provided to the manager and player involved.

Within two hours of receiving the Statement they may request a hearing to appeal against the further sanction applied.

This hearing will be chaired by the EC member present or their substitute and may hear from the ejected player / manager (who may be accompanied by a representative), and Technical Commissioner(s).

There is no appeal against the decision of the EC.

Player, coach or team member to opponent

Number of games suspension

	Minimum	Maximum
Verbal		
Indecent language	1	2
Insulting language	1	3
Threats	1	4
Inciting spectators to abuse other player	1	3
Physical		
Deliberate contact	1	2
Fights:	2	3
Fights: Actual injury	3	6
Throwing material	1	2
Spitting	2	4
NOTE:		Fights during bench clearing will be handled as fights mentioned above

Player, coach or team member to official

Verbal		
Indecent language	1	2
Insulting language	2	3
Threats	2	4
Inciting spectators to abuse officials	1	3
Physical		
Deliberate contact	1	2
Attempted injury	2	3
Actual injury	3	6
Throwing material at a person	2	4
Spitting	2	4
Other interfractions		
Disputing judgement calls, bad language, etc	0	2

If in the TC's judgement the Umpire's Report indicates that the ejection itself was sufficient, AND there are no previous incidents on record, the player may only be issued with an 'Official Warning'.

If an Individual's Sanction Record shows previous infringements, further incidents may result in penalties higher than the maximum mentioned above.