

**2024 BAPTIST ATHLETIC UNION**  
**SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL RULES AND BYLAWS**  
**(Clarifications and Rule Amendments)**

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## Rule Amendments/Bylaw Revisions

### **Amendment 2024-1 : Rule V, Section D (Bylaw V.D – Jewelry)**

Rule V (Exceptions and clarifications to NSA playing rules), Section D (Jewelry) has been modified to reflect the allowance if jewelry at the umpire’s discretion.

#### Revised Bylaw V.D

##### *D. Jewelry*

Jewelry may be worn at the player’s risk at the umpire’s discretion.

### **Amendment 2024-2 : Rule V, Section N (Bylaw V.N – Hitting back up the middle)**

Rule V (Exceptions and clarifications to NSA playing rules), Section N (Hitting back up the middle) has been modified to apply to all leagues

#### Revised Bylaw V.N

##### *N. Hitting back up the middle*

If a batter hits a line drive ball back up the middle, and the ball hits the pitcher or the pitcher’s glove, regardless of if the pitcher is trying to make a play on the ball or move out of the way of the ball, then the batter will immediately be called out, and a dead ball situation is declared, with no chance for base runners to advance in all leagues.

### **Amendment 2024-3 : Rule V, Section N (Bylaw V.Q – Bat Equipment)**

Rule V (Exceptions and clarifications to NSA playing rules), Section Q (Bat Equipment) has been modified to reflect the disallowance of the DeMarini Steel single-wall bat model series.

#### Revised Bylaw V.Q

##### *Q. Bat Equipment*

1. Only single-wall, non-composite bats may be used in the BAU. For the purposes of this rule, the ASA approved bat equipment list will be used to deem whether a bat meets this requirement. Since 2023, all DeMarini Steel bats have been deemed illegal.
2. In addition to the approved equipment list, compression testing may also be used to determine the legal status of a bat. This testing may be required

before a bat's first use, as a part of mid-season testing or as a part of a formal protest.

3. The BAU may record information about tested bats to associate the bat with a sponsoring church and bat owner.
4. The BAU may provide and apply an easily visible sticker to tested conforming bats in an effort to make approved bats easy to identify and also make untested bats easy to identify.
5. No illegal bats will be allowed in the confines of the playing area at any time. This includes the dugout, playing field, or any area inside the field's fencing. One warning will be afforded to both teams in a game (meaning one warning warns both teams, not one warning per team). If an illegal bat remains in the playing area after a warning, the result will be a game forfeit (or double forfeit if each team is in violation).

## New Rules

### **Amendment 2024-4 : Rule V, Section R (Bylaw V.R – Throwing from the outfield to 1st base)**

Rule V (Exceptions and clarifications to NSA playing rules), Section R (Bat Equipment) has extracted from several league-specific sections and promoted to a universally applicable bylaw in all leagues.

#### Bylaw V.R

##### *R. Throwing from the outfield to 1st base*

1. Any batted ball that is fielded by a defensive player that started the play in the outfield cannot result in the batter being forced out at first base. Any such attempt will result in a “safe” call and is attempted at the risk of the defending team. This means that if an outfielder attempts to throw a batter/runner out at first base the ball is a live ball. If the throw results in an overthrow, then play will continue and runners can advance.

**Note:** Force-outs from the outfield to 2nd, 3rd or home base is perfectly legal and acceptable.

**Note:** Infielders may “range” into the outfield once the ball has been hit and throw the batter/runner out at first base.