



**Exception for Compliance with Existing
NCAA Barrel Compression Testing Standard
updated July 2017**

In order for a manufacturer to request an exception to the existing tipping point (e.g. psi distinguishing pass from fail) for NCAA Barrel Compression Testing (“BCT”), the following criteria must be met:

- 1) The manufacturer must show that the bat model’s structure deviates significantly from the traditional single wall, multi wall and/or layered composite designs;
- 2) The manufacturer must submit to the NCAA Softball Rules Committee a reasonable explanation in writing, and acceptable to the NCAA Softball Rules Committee, for why the bat model’s design will consistently and repeatedly produce BCT results softer than the existing tipping point;
- 3) The manufacturer must provide to the NCAA Softball Rules Committee lab data from the lab used by the NCAA Softball Rules Committee clearly demonstrating the correlation between the requested lower BCT tipping point and lab results of less than the mph limit bbs then in effect;
- 4) The lab results reflected in the above-referenced data must be obtained from a sample of bats as noted below:
 - a) sample size-- 12 to 24 bats representing ALL length and weight combinations listed on the NCAA Approved Softball Bat List;
 - b) conditioning-- at least 75% must be broken in through play or practice activities;
 - c) source-- selected by the NCAA Softball Rules Committee, including from multiple suppliers and/or institutions.
- 5) The above-referenced data, and the results from BCT and lab testing included therein, must clearly demonstrate at least 95% compliance across the sample.

Except as may be otherwise expressly provided for by the NCAA Softball Rules Committee, all costs and expenses associated with all testing contemplated herein shall be borne by the manufacturer requesting the exception. The final decision regarding any requested exception and the appropriate BCT tipping point between pass and fail for a bat model shall rest with the NCAA Softball Rules Committee. Unless and until an exception is granted, the bat model shall be subject to BCT testing and standards then in effect. The NCAA Softball Rules Committee shall have the right to periodically review and revise the criteria for this exception, in its sole discretion. All other terms and conditions of the NCAA softball bat protocol and related procedures shall continue to apply, whether or not an exception is granted.