

# **PLEASE NOTE:** **NEW BAT RULES FOR 2018**

## USABat

As will be stated in section 8 "Equipment," in conjunction with USA Baseball and its other participating National Member Organizations, PONY Baseball has adopted the new USA Baseball Bat Standard (USABat).

Effective January 1, 2018, with the exception of the -3 bat (BBCOR certified), all other 2-1/4" and 2-5/8" minus factor bats (-5, -7, -9, etc.) must be certified with the USABat licensing stamp on the bat in order to be used for league and tournament play. 2-1/4" and 2-5/8" minus factor bats (-5, -7, -9, etc.) used in 2017 will be illegal to use in 2018.

2-3/4" barrel bats are prohibited in all divisions of PONY Baseball. Colt 16U players are only allowed to use 2-5/8" -3 BBCOR certified bats.

If using a tee ball bat manufactured prior to 2018, these bats must carry the USA Baseball mark accompanied by the following text: "Only For Use With Approved Tee ball bat." If you already have a tee ball bat you would like to continue using, all you have to do is purchase a USA bat sticker directly from USABB and place it on your bat.

**\*\*Teams using illegal bats prior to April 1, 2018 will be warned. After April 1, 2018 if any player is found to be using an illegal bat then the manager will be ejected and may face additional sanctions. Please understand that the new bat rules are in place for the safety of the players.\*\***

Sample labels/stickers below:

