



REMINDERS FOR THE 2023 SEASON FROM THE BSF

The BSF would like to ask players and teams participating in league and tournament play this season to be aware of the following policies and regulations:

Alcohol, drugs, smoking and vaping in dugouts

Based on both WBSC and BSF Rules, alcohol, drugs, smoking and vaping are prohibited in dugouts, in team areas where there are no constructed dugouts, and on the field of play. Umpires will first warn, then eject, any player flouting this rule.

If an Umpire believes a player to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs and unsafe to play because they present a danger to themselves or others, the Umpire will ask the Captain/Coach to remove that player from the line-up. Should the player then go on the field, they will be ejected.

These rules are not new, but because they have been increasingly flouted in recent years, the BSF and BASU are enforcing them more strictly this season.

Jewellery

The BSF rule regarding the wearing of jewellery by players, based on WBSC regulations, is below. Umpires' judgments on this will be final.

Jewellery can be worn during play as long as it does not create a distraction or is liable to cause harm to another player.

Lightning regulations

BSF policy on lightning, which will be enforced by BASU Umpires at tournaments, is based on principles put forward by RoSPA, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. It is suggested that all Team Captains and Tournament Organisers familiarise themselves with full BSF policy and recommendations on lightning here: <https://www.britishsoftball.org/resources/filtered-download/british-softball-federation-lightning-advice-and-policy>.

Regulations regarding under-18 players

League Heads, Tournament Organisers and Team Captains are urged to remind themselves about the regulations – updated this year – regarding under-18 players playing fastpitch or slowpitch in youth or adult softball:

https://www.britishsoftball.org/uploads/documents/Safety_and_Safeguarding/BSF_Requirements_for_Under-18s_in_Softball_Play_2.pdf.