**Las Vegas Senior Softball Association (LVSSA) Softball Bat Testing**

**What is Bat Compression?**

Bat compression test results describe the **pressure required to compress the barrel of a bat**. A higher compression result (usually in pounds per area) means a barrel’s walls are more rigid. A bat with lower compression means the barrel walls are more flexible or elastic.

**Bat Testing History**

The Sports Fitness Industry Association (SFIA) Senior Bat Committee, NTS (the official certification lab of SSUSA) and Senior Softball USA (SSUSA) have been working together on a joint project to establish an on-field senior bat testing limit. The result for Senior Softball is a 140-pound compression minimum for on-field testing.

This is NOT a new standard for approving senior bats. This is a field compression test to identify bats deemed too hot for senior play.

Bats testing less than 140 pounds in the field test will not be allowed. Bats that are cracked will not be allowed.

SSUSA has acquired bat testers and began testing bats in 2024. The testers are being used at SSUSA Tournaments.

The purpose of the on-field test is to ensure an even playing field and address the use of bats that have been altered to improve performance.

Senior Softball USA would especially like to thank the SFIA, senior bat manufacturers and the NTS lab for their help and support in establishing this on-field test.

**LVSSA and Bat Testing**

The LVSSA Board of Directors approved the purchase of a softball bat tester at its February 2025 Board Meeting. The bat tester was ordered on February 20th from the same vendor that SSUSA uses. The bat tester was delivered on March 11th. Scott Carr started the testing, and he was at Lorenzi on Saturday, March 15th. Scott and Mike Hula tested over 125 bats (with our Tournament Teams and Ladies Groups). Most bats tested in the 150 - 175 range which passes SSUSA's 140 or more limit (note: any bat testing below 140 is deemed "illegal").

Bat testing continued throughout the month of March 2025 with both our 64 and Under Group (under Scott Carr) that play on Monday and Thursday and our over 65 Group (under Butch Kocher) which plays on Tuesday and Friday. Over 60 LVSSA Members’ bats were tested.

**Bat Testing Schedule**

The LVSSA will develop a preliminary quarterly testing schedule for bats to be tested at Lorenzi Park. The schedule will be published prior to the start of a calendar quarter (January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1) and posted to the LVSSA.Vegas website. The schedule will be modified based on the SSUSA Tournament Schedule and member demand.

The bat testers will be:

Rod Adams and Mike Hula 64 and Under Group, Ladies, Men’s BP, Tournament

Butch Kocher 65 and Over Group

Preliminary Schedule for April 1 – June 30, 2025

Saturday, May 24th 9 am – Noon

Other Dates will be announced and posted to the LVSSA.Vegas site.