# Teeball Areas to Improve

## Throwing the Bat – Rule 6.8

Early in the season the umpires typically observe players in each team throwing the bat rather than controlling the bat following contact with the ball. The bat must be controlled to ensure it is not likely to make contact with another person (including the umpire!). The includes tossing the bat towards the bench or when it is released and comes within the area of the catcher / or umpire.

Rule 6.8 States: *“The batter shall be given out for disposing of the bat in a dangerous manner. (It is considered dangerous when the bat is disposed of in a way that would allow it to make contact with another person). The ball is dead and runners are returned to the base they occupied before the hit.”*

Umpires need to err on the side of caution as this is a safety rule. Whilst it is hard giving a player out for throwing the bat, it is a better option than having someone seriously hurt by this practice. A player given out for this indiscretion once or twice usually does not offend again.

Umpires at Chidlow take the view that early in the season (first 3 games) a warning will be given to the player and the coach if a bat is thrown but does not contact a person, however the second time it occurs during a game by the same player they will be given out. Anytime a bat is thrown and makes connection with a person the batter will be given out immediately. After game 3, any player throwing a bat “in a dangerous manner” will be given out and the play nullified.

### Contact EHH Chief Coach for further information on training drills to assist players to stop throwing the bat.