

# [The recent debate in college baseball and softball](https://assignbuster.com/the-recent-debate-in-college-baseball-and-softball/)

is whether or notwood bats should be used to replace metal bats. There is a just argumentfor both sides of this debate. New York Yankees coach Joe Torre has comeout publicly and said that he would love to see the game go back to woodbats. He is not the only major league coach that would like to this change.

Coaches Tony Larussa of the St. Louis Cardinals and Lou Pinella of theTampa Bay Devil Rays agree that would bats would be better for the game.

Some opponents feel that wood bats would change the game too much.

They go on to say that wood bats break and would therefore cost more.

Opponents will also bring up the lack of home runs and long balls hit, things that we have become accustomed to with metal bats. However, I feelthat wood bats would heighten the game of baseball by forcing players to bebetter hitters, saving people money in the long run, and also by preventinginjury by way of a batted ball.

Wood bats force a player to become a better hitter as well a moredisciplined hitter. Unlike a metal bat, where a ball can be hit nearlyanywhere on the bat, a wooden bat will break if a ball is hit incorrectly.

A single wayward swing can cost a player a bat when they are dealing withwood. Wooden bats also have a different weight distribution than metal batsmaking them heavier and slightly different to swing. The difference in thefeel although small, can make a catastrophic difference in a swing. A metalbat creates a great margin for error. A wood bat removes most of thatmargin thus making the hitter focus more and that is what makes a playerbetter.

Broken bats are a major concern when it comes down to what bat touse. Personal experience has proven the common idea that wood bats breakall the time is not correct at all. In fact, I have two wooden bats and Ihave had them longer than any of the five metal bats that I own. Yes, woodbats break but only if they are used incorrectly. It took me about twentyminutes to explain to my nine year old niece how to use a wood bat. Thegoing price for a wood bat is about fifty dollars and for a metal bat it isabout two hundred and fifty or three hundred dollars. Metal bats costnearly six times as much and can break just as easily if used incorrectly.

Personally, I would say that if a person takes the time to learn how to usea wood bat correctly then they could save tons of money.

The biggest argument that you can make for wood bats is that theycould save lives. Baseballs batted from a metal bat can be nearly ten milesper hour faster than those batted by a wooden bat. Every year there aremore and more advancements in the area of metal bats and with theseadvancements come faster baseballs. The main player that is at risk is thepitcher, who sits just sixty feet from the batter. This means that acollege pitcher could have a ball batted at him at one hundred and tenmiles per hour from just sixty feet away. That is faster than the speed ofmost commercially built vehicles. Wood bats not only slow the ball down, but they also make is harder to hit a ball that fast. Overall, a wood batdoes not take away injury but it does decrease the chances of a playergetting hit with a sharply hit baseball.

In conclusion, I feel that the advantages of a wood bat far out weighthose of its counterpart the metal bat. It would show us who the realhitters are at the lower levels. I think that it would also save parentsmoney and some anxiety about their child getting injured. The fact thatmetal bats have caused more deaths than wood bats is enough to sell me onthe idea that wood is better. I just do not see how anyone could pass upall these advantages when they look at the grand scheme of things.