



Stormglow Battlegame Weapon/Shield/Armour Construction Rules



Contained in this document is some of the standards that are used in weapon / shield / armour construction in Stormglow Battlegame larp. These standards are set by the engineers and crafters guild leader and enforced by the equipment's desk personal.

Document Everything you do

A player constructing their own weapons are asked to fully document the process taking as many photos as possible during all the steps. This will help the Equipment desk decide on weather or not a constructed weapon will be permitted to used on the field.

Equipment desk reserve the right to refuse any constructed weapon on safety grounds.

Basic Weapon Construction

Weapons must be designed to minimise the risk of serious or permanent injury to persons, and damage to foam prop weapons.

Cores of weapons may be either fibreglass or carbon fibre rods or tubes that break cleanly or "feather" rather than result in splinters.

Weapons must be padded with injection or **closed cell** foam, or equivalent.

Striking Surface

There must be at least 25mm of foam padding from a weapons core to a striking surface (the surface of the weapon that is used for striking opponents) and must not be readily apparent to firm finger pressure

Non-Striking Surface

There must be at least 10mm of foam padding from a weapons core to a non-striking surface (examples of non-striking surfaces are the back of a single sided blade weapon or the haft/pole of a polearm)

Thrusting Tips

Thrusting tips must be designed so as to minimise the risk of serious injury to the eye and body and must have **Kevlar** or equivalent reinforced tips to minimise the risks of the core penetrating the foam.

There also must be a minimum of 40mm of foam between the tip of the core and the tip of the weapon.

Homemade thrusting tips (for swords and spears) will need to include an anti-penetration device (rubber stopper) over the shaft and covered by a foam head.

Foam head of a polearm

A foam head must have least 40mm from the stopper to the tip of the weapon. And be sufficient thickness so the shaft cannot be felt through pressure to the level likely to be encountered in combat.



Polearm Construction

The haft/poles of pole arms may also be constructed of wood or bamboo but may not be used in striking surfaces. In order for a polearm to be able to strike with its pole (eg a staff weapon) then the haft/poles must use the same core material as a sword and have a 25mm foam thickness between the core and the striking surface.

For extra safety pole arm/spears must be padded to the first 40cm and must have as a minimum a rubber stopper or padding on the butt. The butt of a pole arm/spear may not be used for thrusting.

1 handed and 2 handed spears may only be used for THRUSTING

Flail Weapons

The head and chain on a flail weapon must be made from soft material and must not exceed 15cm in length.

Examples of approved materials are:

Paracord / Startercord

Leather

Flails made using materials such as plastic/metal chain, cable ties, rough rope **will not** be passed by equipments desk.

Other Props

Improvised weapons: club, stick, chair leg, beer mug, and other improvised weapons approved for the game or an event. An improvised weapon may only be SWUNG and must be fully covered in foam.



Ranged Constructed Weapons

Bandguns/rifles

May have a cap system that goes off on the band being fired.

Bandguns must have the appearance of pre-1600 muzzle loading black powder firearm (including distinctive serpentine or hammer as a minimum).

All bandguns and bandrifles must have a **trigger guard**

Even though players are not allowed to parry with there bandguns/rifles, they must not have any sharp edges to help prevent injury to players or damage to other players weapons when the bandgun/rifle is holstered or in a players hand.



Bandwands

Bandwands are not to have a trigger of any kind





Bands

Only materials that are listed in this document can be used in the construction of band ammunition for band wands/staffs, band guns/rifles. Bands found to be using materials not listed in the following approved list will NOT be permitted on the field.



Approved Materials



Allcare – All tubing (only Blue and Green)



Para Cord or Starter Cord



Builders line

When using **Green** tubing: **3mm** thick para cord or **3.5mm** thick starter cord should be used.

When using **Blue** tubing: **4mm** thick para cord or **5mm** thick starter cord should be used.



Draw Length – Bandguns/rifles

All bands must at minimum be **one third of the draw length** of the bandgun when placed over the mechanism and pulled until flush but not under tension.

All bands must be capable of maintaining integrity at full draw indefinitely.

When cutting your tubing for your bands you will need to measure from the tip of the weapon to the hammer mechanism.

Below: the pistols draw length is measured at 35.5cms.



Band lengths are to be no smaller than 1/3 (or 33.33%) of the weapons draw length the band is made for. **But can be Longer.**

Using the draw length in the above example and the following two tables you will see the two ways of determining the length of band needed for your ammunition.

1/3 of draw length: $(\text{DRAW LENGTH} / 3) \times 2 = \text{Band Length}$

33.33% of draw length: $(\text{DRAW LENGTH} \times 0.3333) \times 2 = \text{Band Length}$

Example: $(35.5\text{cm} \times 0.3333) \times 2 = 23.66$

Using the example above we can determine that the length of band can be no shorter than 23.66cm.

Draw Length – Bandwands

Bandwands follow a different ratio than guns/rifles. Band Ammunition made for wands can be no smaller than 1/2 (50%) of the draw length of a wand.



Javelins

Javelins must be entirely padded other than a small area near the middle for holding. Construction will otherwise be similar to a one-handed spear save that core must be either fibreglass or bamboo.

Throwing Weapons

All throwing weapons must be made entirely of foam and non-hardening adhesives. All throwing weapons must be coreless or fitted with a flexible core. A flexible core is a core that can be flexed to any extent without any resistance, such as non-hardening silicone or an un-used hot glue stick.

Examples of small throwing weapons are daggers, knives, throwing stars, axes, rocks, energy balls, grenades, and beer mugs.



Siege Missile

All siege weapon ammunition must be constructed primarily from coreless pool noodles and a tennis ball with a hole cut in the front to enable compression and constructed without any sharp or rough edges. Siege weapon ammunition should fly no faster than half the speed of a game safe arrow fired from a game safe bow when fired.



Arrows

Stormglow Battlegame doesn't allow any home made arrows to be used at there events battles. All arrows must be round head safety arrows produced by IDV Germany. All LARP suppliers like of science and sword and Calimacil sell these types of arrows.





Shields

Shield construction

All shields and bucklers must be constructed from either plywood or closed cell EVA foam. All wooden shields must be made from 12mm thick plywood. Bucklers can be made with 9mm thick plywood. Shields must not have any sharp or rough surfaces or edges, including on the back side, that may damage other equipment. This includes protruding bolts and exposed staples. Any exposed bolts should be covered with hot glue and exposed staples covered with cloth tape or hot glue.

Shields not constructed entirely from closed cell EVA foam **must** be padded on the entirety of the outside edge of the shield with **two layers of 10mm** closed cell EVA foam and non-hardening adhesive, e.g. glue and the cloth tape over the foam and the entire shield front and edges should be covered with cloth, unless a wood finish is wanted. On edges the construction material should only be able to be felt with excessive pressure on the foam. On corners the construction material should not be able to be felt regardless of pressure applied to the foam.



Above are two ways of applying 2 layers of foam to shields

Great and Pavise Shield construction

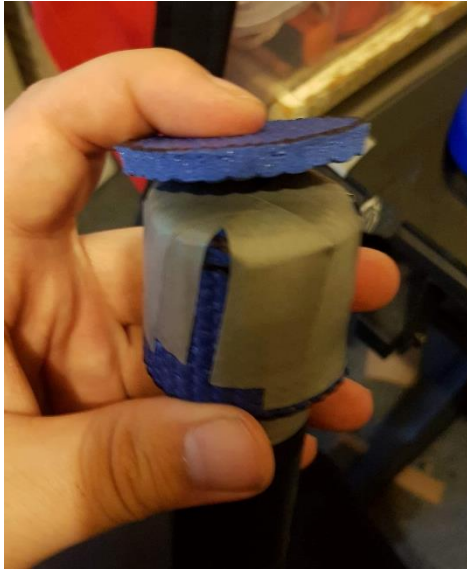
Great shields and pavise shields must be constructed with at least 12mm plywood. This is to ensure structural integrity across the large surface and encumbering weight for combat balancing. Pavise shields may be fitted with wheels and do not require padding but may have rounded edges instead.

Great shields still need the entire edge of the shield to be padded with 2 layers of 10mm closed cell EVA foam and non-hardening adhesive e.g. glue and the cloth tape over the foam, the entire shield front and edges should be covered with cloth unless a wood finish is wanted.

Great shields are a two-handed item and cannot be placed down unlike the pavise which can be left unattended.

Banner construction

Banners can be used to defend against attacks. For a banner to be used during combat it is important for it to have sufficient padding on ends of the T on the banner. Rubber stoppers are also a must on the end of the pole. A banner should not have any decorative items that could potentially damage players weapons or injury players. Banner poles must also have padding on the blocking surface.



Above is an example of the end piece to the T of a banners padding, first wrapped in foam then cloth and taped.



Above is an example of a rubber stopper for the end of a banners pole.