



2018 U.S. Women's Open Rules

The 2018 U.S. Women's Open is USBC-certified. The game of American Tenpins will be played. This is a scratch singles tournament with qualifying rounds and round-robin match play.

BOWLING EQUIPMENT

Bowling Balls

- All bowling balls must meet USBC specifications. It is the player's responsibility to ensure all equipment is eligible for competition.
- Plugged bowling balls are allowed.
- Random bowling ball checking may be done as deemed necessary by tournament management.
- Any bowler may request to have their bowling balls checked prior to competition.
- All bowling balls must be on the USBC-approved ball list (posted on BOWL.com).
- PWBA product registration rules will apply

Powder

- No substance, including, but not limited to, talcum powder and EZ Slide, can be applied to the bottom of a player's shoes.

Rosin

- Once competition begins, the outer surface of the ball only may be cleaned with a dry towel.

NOTE: The tournament director may allow a player to remove foreign substances from the bowling ball surface with authorized cleaners on a case-by-case basis.

Use of Abrasives on Ball Surface or Other Modification

- Once warm-up begins prior to your competition, no abrasives, cleaners or polishes may be used on equipment. They may, however, be used between sessions. In addition, all sanding products must be removed from the players' area (i.e. Abralon, sand paper, etc.).

- Once your first warm-up session begins, no alterations affecting the weight or balance of your ball may be made.
 - Penalty: \$250 plus the following: If the ball is not thrown it will be removed from competition. If the ball is thrown the player will be disqualified (including the warm-up session).

Bowling Ball Registration for Balls Used in Competition

- Bowlers will be allowed a maximum of eight (8) bowling balls on the Bowler's Equipment Registration Form. Only these eight balls are permitted in the center or in the locker room during competition. **No changes to the form are permitted once A squad roll call begins.**
- Adjustments to the form are only permitted as described below.
 - All ball cards for all tournament entrants are due to tournament staff by A Squad roll call, no exceptions.
 - After the cut to match play, the equipment registration form can be adjusted while maintaining the eight-ball maximum.
 - After the cut to the TV stepladder finals, the equipment registration form can be adjusted while maintaining the eight-ball maximum.
- Penalties
 - If not turned in prior to A squad roll call - **Disqualification**
- Once a ball card is submitted, no alterations affecting the weight or balance of ball may be made.
 - Penalty: \$250 plus the following: If the ball is not thrown it will be removed from competition. If the ball is thrown, the player will be disqualified (including the warm-up session).
- For all balls drilled after the official practice day, all ball information must be completed. If an extra hole will not be determined until after drilling, card must be initialed by tournament official in the extra hole box. Once ball is picked up, tournament official must be notified and ball card updated appropriately.

Errors on Card

If ball is not marked correctly on card and brought to tournament official's attention, player will be fined \$25, and ball will be removed from play. The ball may be brought back into play in next round of competition. If the ball has been used in competition, bowler will be disqualified.

Gripping Orientation

A "Wi-Fit" or "Duo" grip bowling ball with finger grips cannot be used in USBC competition because the hole not used would be deemed as a weight hole and per USBC specifications, no interchangeable device may be used in a weight hole.

Bowling balls drilled to allow the bowler to grip the ball in different orientations will count as a ball for each gripping orientation used to deliver the ball in that competition, except for:

1. A bowling ball with a "Triangle" grip will count as six balls.
2. The "Wi-Fit" or "Duo" grip, will count as two balls.

Individuals who violate the gripping orientation rule are subject to disqualification from the tournament.

Damaged Equipment

- In the event a player's bowling ball is damaged during tournament play in such a fashion that it will not meet USBC specifications, the player must notify the tournament director and the ball must be taken out of play immediately. Tournament staff will determine if the participant can replace the ball on the ball card or if it can be repaired.

COMPETITORS GUESTS

- Each competitor is allowed their spouse, school age children under 18, parents and one additional guest during the practice session, pro-am and all qualifying rounds. In match play, each competitor is allowed the aforementioned and one additional guest. Guests for competitors for any televised portion of the event will be handled by the tournament director.

CONDUCT

- All tournament bowlers shall conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times while in the host center or on the property of the host center and on social media before, during and after the event. Any criticism by a tournament bowler who discusses the sponsor, host center or personnel, lane conditions or pins, USBC or its staff, or their fellow competitors in an unfavorable manner, or who otherwise engages in actions unbecoming a USBC bowler in the opinion of the Tournament Director shall be in violation of the Code of Conduct.
- Electronic Media. The USBC regards electronic media such as message boards, conversation pages and other forms of social networking (such as Facebook and Twitter) as important tools of communication and fan interaction. Tournament participants may not use these platforms to defame or otherwise attack the integrity of the USBC, its members, staff, sponsors, host center or host center employees.
- Individuals are subject to ejection for engaging in improper tactics or conduct including, but not limited to, physical and verbal abuse toward another person.
- Anyone found to be in violation of the Code of Conduct will be fined and may be refused entry to the event or disqualified from the competition in which the violation occurred and/or declared ineligible for future competitions.
- First offense: \$250; Second offense: \$500; Third offense: \$1,000

CRITERIA FOR ENTRY:

Bowlers may qualify for entry in the 2018 U. S. Women's Open based on the following criteria as of Dec. 31, 2017 in the following order:

Top 50 Professional Women's Bowling Association members on 2017 PWBA Tour point list

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next athlete from the PWBA Tour point list.

Top five (5) bowlers on 2017 World Bowling Tour women's point list (not on the top 50 PWBA point list)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next athlete from the World Bowling Tour point list.

Five (5) recent eligible U. S. Women's Open champions (not on PWBA point list)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next athlete from the PWBA Tour point list.

2017 Team USA women

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to PTQ.

2017 Junior Team USA girls

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to PTQ.

Top five amateurs based on 15 qualifying games at 2017 USBC Queens

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next eligible athlete from this list.

Top five all-events finishers at 2017 USBC Women's Championships

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to the next eligible athlete from this list.

Top two women from each of the four 2017 Intercollegiate Singles Championships Sectionals (Allentown, Smyrna, Addison, Dallas)

- If any of those two qualify from a higher-priority list, or decline, the invite will go to the next athlete on the list up to the cutline at that sectional.
- Any unclaimed spot from the sectional will go to the PTQ

2017 Junior Gold U20 champion (girls)

- If an invitee from this list declines, the spot will then go to PTQ.

An on-site pre-tournament qualifier (PTQ) to fill any remaining spots

Any bowler qualifying on multiple lists will be placed on the highest priority list, beginning with the PWBA Tour point list.

*Once an athlete receives an invite, their name will not be moved to another list.

Bowlers who do not accept their invitations and pay their entry fees by April 1, 2018 will lose their spot in the field, and the spot will be awarded to the next eligible competitor.

Invitations will be closed four weeks prior to the official practice session, and all available spots will default to the PTQ.

Any non-invitees wishing to compete in the U.S. Women's Open must enter the PTQ (see information under format). PTQ is limited to the first 80 entries. Additional entries will be placed on a waiting list.

DEAD-BALL SITUATIONS

- The tournament director must be called and will make all decisions regarding dead-ball situations.

Bowling on the Wrong Lane

- Bowling on the wrong lane constitutes a potential dead-ball situation, provided it is protested before the offending competitor (or her opponent in match play) bowls again.
- If a competitor rolls a strike on the wrong lane, she must bowl again on the correct lane.
- If the competitor does not strike, her pin count will stand, and she must shoot the spare on the same lane.
- First Offense: Warning; Subsequent Offenses: \$50

Bowling Out of Turn

- Bowling out of turn constitutes a potential dead-ball situation, provided it is protested before the offending competitor (or her opponent in match play) bowls again.
- If a competitor rolls a strike out of turn, she must bowl again in the correct order of play.
- If the competitor does not strike, her pin count will stand, and she must shoot the spare.
- First Offense: Warning; Subsequent Offenses: \$50

Dead Wood

- If a pin is in the channel, a competitor must consult the competitors on her pair to determine if it is in play. If any other competitor feels the pin is in play, it must be removed before a shot is thrown.
- If the competitor rolls a strike while a pin is in play, she must bowl the frame over. If the competitor does not strike, her pin count will stand.
- If the competitor attempts a spare conversion while a pin is in play, and the ball contacts the dead wood before leaving the lane surface, she shall receive zero for the shot.
- If the competitor attempts a spare conversion while a pin is in play, and any pin after coming in contact with the dead wood knocks down one or more pins, she shall receive zero for the shot.

Missing Pins

- A competitor must re-bowl the frame if it is determined that any pins were missing from the rack at which she shot.

DELAYS AND MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS

- If a delay or mechanical breakdown of 10 minutes or longer occurs during competition, tournament management, at its discretion, may authorize warm-up ball(s) prior to the re-starting of competition. Timing will begin the moment the tournament director is notified of the breakdown.
- An alternate pair shall be used whenever possible when awarding warm-up in the event of a breakdown.
- If an alternate pair is not available, two shots will be awarded on the lane opposite of where the competitor will throw her next shot for score.
- If a breakdown requires competitors to move to an alternate pair not previously used in the tournament, each competitor required to move will receive two warm-up shots on each lane. Competitors on subsequent squads will not receive warm-up on new pair. If pair is repaired, it will remain out of play for all squads unless a re-oil occurs. Pair may be brought back in to play if needed due to additional breakdowns.
- Bowlers are responsible to pace themselves accordingly with the pairs in front of them. No warm-up shots will be awarded for slow bowling.

DRESS CODE

Requirements

- A collared shirt with the participant's name on the back must be worn during every round of competition. Mock turtlenecks or bowling jerseys without collars are allowed.
- Lettering must be at least two inches in height and contrasting color to your shirt color.
- Names on detachable name plaques are not acceptable.
- Women may wear dress slacks, shorts, skirts or skorts. Length of skirt, skorts or shorts must be below the bowler's fingertips when they are standing and their arms are hanging down at their side. No exceptions.

Logos

- Please refer to PWBA Rule No. 17. The link below will take you to the PWBA rules.
[2018 PWBA Rules](#)

Examples of prohibited attire include but are not limited to

- Tank tops, halter tops, bare midribs, spaghetti strap tops, hats (medical reason only), etc.
- Workout attire, short shorts, short skirts, bib overalls, t-shirts.
- Cords, jeans, or any kind of denim.

Practice Session & Sweepers

- The dress code for the official practice session will be the same as the tournament dress code.

Stepladder Finals

- Name on back of participant's shirts must be embroidered or dye-sublimated if the event is televised. Detachable name plaques are not acceptable.

Penalty

- Bowlers will be required to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by tournament management.
- Tournament management has the authority to fine a bowler \$50 for each offense.

- Tournament management's decision will be final.

EATING, DRINKING, SMOKING

- Entrants are NOT permitted to smoke or drink alcoholic beverages while participating in this event. This includes from the start of practice to the last ball thrown for score in qualifying, match play and finals.
- Bowlers are permitted to eat a small snack (ex: power bars, candy bars, fruit) during competition.

ELIGIBILITY

- All participants must be current USBC members with a minimum average of 180.
- If current membership cannot be verified, USBC associate membership card must be purchased at the tournament site at a cost of \$21.00 USD.
- All participants give USBC their unqualified permission to use their photograph for publicity purposes, to arrange for the telecasts or broadcasts of the tournament without cost to the participant and without sharing revenue derived therefrom with them.
- Current and former PWBA members must be in good standing with the PWBA.
- Participants that have not reached their 18th birthday by the first official day of competition must have a USBC Parental Consent Form (available on BOWL.com) on file with tournament management prior to the first day of competition.
- Participants that have not reached their 16th birthday by the first official day of competition must be a current member of Junior Team USA or you can petition tournament management for acceptance into the tournament. The petition must be submitted in writing to tournament management 30 days prior to the start of the tournament. Bowlers entering under these conditions must alert tournament staff upon submitting their entry.
- Youth Eligibility: If a bowler has a USBC Youth membership they can still maintain their youth eligibility to participate in youth certified competition by signing a USBC Prize Waiver (available on site). Tournament winnings will be deposited in the SMART scholarship program unless the player waives claim to her winnings. Collegiate bowlers should verify prize acceptance policies with their Compliance Offices prior to participating in the competition.

FEES

- Entry fee: \$400.00 USD
- See "refund policy" for additional information.

FORMAT

PRE-TOURNAMENT QUALIFIER

- The pre-tournament qualifier will feature one eight-game block with total pins determining finishing position and qualification into the U.S. Women's Open.
- Maximum field is 80 bowlers. Entries will be taken up to 24 hours prior to the PTQ, or when the tournament field is full at 80, whichever occurs first.
- Entry fee is \$400.
- Players not making the field for the U.S. Women's Open will be returned half of their entry fee upon the completion of the qualifier.

- Each PTQ entry will count as half of a U.S. Women's Open entry and will be added to the U.S. Women's Open prize fund.

Anyone planning on running a local qualifier/win-a-spot still can do so but would be buying a spot into the PTQ on-site, not directly into the U.S. Women's Open. The cost to enter the qualifier is \$400 and should be done early, as spots are limited. Proprietor or tournament operator then must call U.S. Women's Open staff to change entry to winner's name. If the bowler does not advance to the U.S. Women's Open field, \$200 would be refunded.

Alternates for qualifying

- The top five non-qualifiers from the PTQ become alternates for entry into the U. S. Women's Open. Alternates must complete ball cards and turn them in prior to A squad roll call on the first day of competition.
- Alternates may participate in official practice sessions.
- Alternates must be present for A squad roll call.
- In case of a drop out, alternates will be placed into competition based on order of finish. Once A squad qualifying begins, no additional alternates will be placed into qualifying spots.

QUALIFYING

- Each entrant will bowl three blocks of eight games each.
 - 12 pairs of lanes will be used for competition with no more than 3 bowlers on a pair.
 - 8 pairs of lanes not used for competition will be available for warm-up prior to each squad.
 - Each bowler's 24-game total will be used to determine qualifiers for the fourth round of qualifying.
 - After eight more games of qualifying, total pinfall will be used to determine the top 24 bowlers.
- The top 24 bowlers will advance to round-robin match play.
- A bowler arriving late will begin play, and her score will count beginning with the frame then being bowled.

MATCH PLAY

- Bowlers making the 24-player match-play field will bowl 24 one-game matches.
- Each bowler will bowl every other bowler in the field once with the final match being a position round (i.e. First place bowls second, third bowls fourth etc.).
- The winner of each match will receive 30 bonus pins in addition to their pinfall for the game. In the event of a match being tied, each bowler will receive 15 bonus pins.
- This pinfall is added to their total from qualifying and a running total shall be kept.
- At the conclusion of match play, the top five bowlers according to pinfall, including bonus pins, will be seeded into a stepladder finals.

SUBSTITUTION OF ALTERNATE COMPETITOR

- Substitution Procedures – The alternate competitor may enter the tournament in place of a match-play finalist at the discretion of the Tournament Director in the case of injury, sickness or emergency, subject to the following procedures.

- When the alternate enters the tournament, she must carry her own qualifying total into play.
- If the alternate enters after play has commenced, the following amount will be deducted from the total of the competitor the alternate replaces: the difference between their qualifying scores plus any bonus pins won by the original competitor.
- The alternate then will assume the net score at that point. Whenever the alternate enters the match-play finals, the prize money will be split evenly with the competitor she replaces.
- Each competitor retains her own actual pinfall and match play record for statistical purposes.
- In the case of a tie for the alternate position for match play, the competitor with the highest qualifying block score will be given the alternate position.
- The competitor finishing in the alternate position must inform the Tournament Director within 15 minutes of the announcement that she will accept the alternate position.
- The alternate must be present at all roll calls and remain on the premises through all frames of match play competition and be prepared to bowl if required. The alternate must be dressed in bowling attire and ready to bowl at all times during match play.
- If a competitor voluntarily declines to serve as alternate, she shall relinquish her alternate's fee and be replaced by the next available competitor based upon finish position.
- Alternate for TV Finals – There will be no alternate to TV finals in PWBA tournaments.
- Warm-up When Entering – If the format calls for an alternate, the alternate entering match play will not receive any practice shots.

STEPLADDER FINALS

- The stepladder finals will be a single-elimination format.
- Positions are determined by seed according to final pinfall total, including bonus pins, after round-robin match play:
- Positions No. 5 and No. 4 will bowl a one-game match, that winner will bowl against No. 3 and so on until all bowlers have bowled.

LANE OIL PATTERN

- Pattern will be posted at the tournament venue, no later than the start of the official practice session.
- Will be Sport compliant.

LOCKER ROOM

- Access to the Locker Room – Only tournament bowlers, USBC staff members and approved ball company representatives are permitted to enter the locker room and use all equipment. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Ball Limit in Locker Room – Only bowling balls designated on a player's Equipment Registration Form for the current round of competition will be permitted in the locker room at any time. Ball-limit restrictions will be enforced by the Tournament Director.
- Bowlers will be fined \$50 per ball over eight in the locker room and all additional balls will be removed from the center.
- Security – The locker room will be locked one (1) hour after the end of competition each day and opened one (1) hour prior to the start of each day's competition.

MOBILE/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- The use of all mobile/electronic devices during competition will be prohibited. This includes cell phone, tablet, laptop, iPod, and any electronic device of any kind. Penalties are per tournament.
 - First offense - \$250 and device confiscated until end of round.
 - Second offense - \$500 and device confiscated until end of round.
 - Third offense - \$1,000 and the player is removed from competition.

PERSONNEL IN THE BOWLERS' AREA

- The tournament director will define the bowlers' area prior to the start of competition.

Authorized Personnel

- Only tournament competitors, USBC staff and tournament volunteers are permitted in the bowlers' area during competition. Media personnel covering the event may be permitted into the bowlers' area on a case-by-case basis.

Ball Manufacturer Representatives

- Bowling ball manufacturer representatives (ball reps) may remain in the bowlers' area during official practice sessions and warm-up sessions only and must leave the bowlers' area when the warm-up session is complete. Ball Reps must be in business casual attire at all times in the bowlers' area.

Incoming Squads

- Competitors on incoming squads may not enter the bowlers' area until both their starting and adjacent pairs are finished. Penalties will be assessed per tournament.

PENALTY: First Offense – Warning. Subsequent Offenses, Conduct Violation - \$100

PRACTICE SESSIONS

- Official practice will consist of one five-hour session and will be available to all bowlers. One-half of the lanes will be re-oiled after 2-1/2 hours. Dates and times of the practice sessions will be posted on the official tournament web page under “schedule.”
- There are no lane assignments for the practice sessions. Bowlers are free to move around the venue.
- Competitors may use the warm-up lanes at any time up until 30 minutes prior to the start of each squad.
- Prior to each squad, 20 minutes of warm-up will be available for the upcoming squad on the designated practice pairs, separate from the competition pairs. These lanes will be designated by tournament management.
- Prior to each squad, and following pre-squad announcements, competitors will be permitted one ball on each of their starting lanes.

PRIZE MONEY AND AWARDS

- Prize checks will be mailed to participants within 30 days of the conclusion of the tournament to the address supplied at registration.
- If for any reason a bowler wishes to waive the prize money, it is the participant's responsibility to notify tournament staff in writing, at time of registration regarding their refusal of the prize money. If the prize money is waived, the amount will be returned to the prize fund for distribution.
- The only sums to which a participant will be entitled for bowling in this tournament are those prizes or awards which may be won by the participant in this tournament.
- The IRS requires USBC to furnish 1099 forms to individuals who accumulate winnings of \$600 or more annually in any USBC event in which they participate. Therefore, Social Security numbers are required by IRS regulations.
- Failure to furnish a Social Security number (U.S. citizens) or Individual Tax ID Number-ITIN (non-U.S. citizens) to USBC will result in a 30% tax reduction of the prize check.
- If a bowler has a USBC Youth membership, they can still maintain their youth eligibility to participate in youth-certified competition by signing a USBC prize waiver (available on-site). Tournament winnings will be deposited in the SMART scholarship program unless the player waives claim to her winnings. Collegiate bowlers should verify prize acceptance policies with their compliance offices prior to participating in the competition.

PRO-AM

- All players must be available to participate in at least one pro-am as needed.
- Failure to participate in an assigned pro-am squad may result in a fine or disqualification from tournament.

PWBA PRODUCT REGISTRATION

- All PWBA product registration rules will be in effect for the entire tournament. Including the official practice session, qualifying, all match-play rounds and the televised portion of the event.
- A list of approved products may be found at the following link:
<http://pwba.com/Tournaments/Format-and-Product-Registration>
- Penalties are listed below for each category.
- Non-Registered Bowling Balls. Competitors may not use a ball that has not been registered and cleared by the PWBA during competition.

PENALTY: Code of Conduct Violation – Disqualification

- Non-Registered Bowling Products. Competitors may not use any non-registered bowling-related product during competition unless special exceptions have been approved by the tournament director

PENALTY: Code of Conduct Violation - \$250 and the product must be removed

- Guidelines for Display of Product Registered Logos and Trademarks. Competitors may NOT display non-registered company names and/or product logos in PWBA competition.

PENALTY: Code of Conduct Violation - \$250 and the logo or trademarked item must be removed from competition.

- Bowling Balls Featuring Competing Sponsor Logos. Bowling Balls featuring trademarked characters, college logos, sports team logos or corporate logos will be permitted during PWBA competition. Unless the logo directly competes with one of the PWBA, USBC or BPAA's sponsors.
 - For example: A Coca-Cola Viz-a-Ball would NOT be allowed as Pepsi is an official sponsor of the BPAA.
 - Please reference PWBA Rule 17-Commercial logos for further logo guidelines.

PENALTY: Bowling ball will be removed immediately from competition

- Use of Indiscriminate Accessory Items. Items without visible logos and those that are not easily identifiable by their unique design are considered indiscriminate accessory items. The following products fall into this category: rosin bags (kept in a pouch or container), cork inserts, tape, slugs, ball polishes and molded thumbs.

PROTESTS

- Protests concerning scoring accuracy must be filed with tournament management immediately.
- Complaints concerning approach conditions or other equipment must be brought to the tournament director.
- An inspection will be made and then, if needed, corrections will be made.
- If complaint is determined to be unwarranted, the contestant must proceed to bowl or the games will be declared forfeited.

APPEALS

- Appeals of penalties or fines must be filed with the USBC Rules Department within 10 days or receipt of notice.
- If the appeal is denied, the competitor must pay all fines and/or serve the full term of the penalty prior to competing in any future event.
- A competitor who files an appeal may compete in tournaments pending the outcome provided the appeal is in writing and includes all defenses or mitigating circumstances claimed

REFUND POLICY

- A refund will be given, less \$50 cancellation fee, to a bowler who withdraws prior to the start of the official practice session.

RE-RACKS

- Each bowler is allowed to take two re-racks per game during qualifying and match play.
- Additional re-racks may be granted with tournament management's permission.

SCORESHEET

- Verifying and signing the scoresheet (qualifying). Competitors are responsible for verifying and signing both their own scoresheets as well as that of their competitor. Verification of information includes game scores, total pins, plus/minus totals and bowling balls used in competition. Penalty: \$25
- Verifying and signing the scoresheet (match play). Verify and initial the opponent's scoresheet immediately following each match.
- Documenting equipment on the scoresheet. Competitors must document each bowling ball used during the round on their scoresheet by the end of the first game the ball is put into play. Documentation of each bowling ball should include last four digits of the serial number.
- Damage to scoresheets. Competitors may not intentionally damage their scoresheets. Penalty: \$25
- Official scores. Once a competitor signs her scoresheet, she agrees the barring any necessary mathematical corrections, the score becomes official. USBC shall have one hour to make any mathematical corrections, but any other disputes that would result in the improvement of a competitor's score shall not be allowed.

SQUADS

- All efforts will be made to post the tournament roster on BOWL.com / PWBA.com four weeks in advance of the tournament, with updates occurring on a weekly basis. Squad assignments will be posted on the official tournament webpage no later than seven days prior to the first day of qualifying. It is the bowler's responsibility to verify what squad they are on before the start of competition.
- Squad requests will not be accepted.
- If a bowler is late for her squad, she will receive zero for each frame missed. Bowlers who are late for an earlier squad will not be moved to a later squad, except under extreme circumstances.
- Tournament management reserves the right to change the number of qualifying squads in the tournament as late as seven days prior to the first day of qualifying, based on entries.

SLOW PLAY

- A competitor shall have 25 seconds to start her delivery, once the lane courtesy requirement has been satisfied. Slow bowling penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the tournament director. Penalties will be assessed per tournament:
PENALTY: First Offense – Warning; Subsequent offenses - \$100
 - Double Jumping: Competitors must observe one-pair lane courtesy at all times. Double jumping occurs following a delivery when a competitor on the same pair delivers her ball before one competitor from the pair to the right and one competitor from the pair to the left have made a delivery, unless those competitors are not ready to bowl. Competitors may not "Double Jump."

START OF COMPETITION

- The definition of the "start of competition" is when any participant's first ball is thrown for score during qualifying, match play and the stepladder finals.

TIEBREAKERS

Qualifying

- If there is a tie for the final position into a cut (non-match play) round or needed to complete the field for match play, one complete game shall be bowled on a neutral pair selected by the tournament director following the final block of qualifying. Bowler with the highest qualifying block chooses the starting lane, and the bowler on the odd lane will start. Bowlers shall have 10 minutes of warm-up.

If a tie still exists at the end of the game, a one ball roll-off will be bowled on the same pair of lanes. The highest-seeded competitor shall determine starting lane and order for the roll-off. The competitors shall bowl on the same lane, and then alternate lanes in the same bowling order, until the tie is broken.

- In the event of a tie for any other position, the bowler with the high eight-game qualifying block will be placed in the higher position. Should both bowlers have the same score for their high block, the second-highest eight-game qualifying block will be used, and so on. If bowlers should have the same individual block totals, the high single-qualifying game will be used, and so on down until the tie is broken.
- Roll-Off Deadline. Any competitor scheduled for a roll-off who is not in the host center within 30 minutes of the announcement of the tie, will be disqualified from the roll-off.

Match Play

- If a match ends in a tie, each bowler will be awarded 15 bonus pins.
- If there is a tie among match-play finalists that affects TV stepladder placement, all tied competitors will compete in a one-game roll-off. The competitor with the highest match-play block (not including bonus pins) has choice of starting lane for the roll-off. If a tie exists for scratch total pins, a coin toss will be used to determine the starting lane.

Breaking Ties to Determine Stepladder Finals Placement

- If there is a tie among stepladder finalists that affects stepladder placement, all tied competitors will compete in a one-game roll-off. The competitor with the highest scratch total pins has choice of starting lane for the roll-off. If a tie exists for scratch total pins, a coin toss will be used to determine the starting lane.
- If the tie does not affect stepladder placement but does affect which competitor chooses the starting lane for the first-round match, then a one ball, sudden death roll-off will be used to break the tie. The competitor with the highest scratch total pins has choice of starting lane for the roll-off. If a tie exists for scratch total pins, a coin toss will be used to determine the starting lane.

Stepladder Finals

- If a match ends in a tie, a one-ball roll-off will be used to break the tie. The highest-seeded competitor shall determine the starting lane and order for the roll-off. The competitors will alternate lanes in the same bowling order until the tie is broken.

TOURNAMENT ROLL CALL

- Roll will be called 30 minutes prior to the first round of competition in all USBC events. Roll will be called 30 minutes prior to the first round of match play competition. Additional roll calls may be scheduled as necessary at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Players are considered tardy if they do not acknowledge their name during roll call. This is mandatory. Penalty is \$25.

TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT

- Tournament management has the final authority to make interpretations of any tournament rules and make decisions regarding anything not covered in the rules.

WEBPAGE

- All tournament information can be found at bowl.com or PWBA.com.
- It is each bowler's responsibility to check the tournament webpage periodically for updated information.

WITHDRAWING AFTER THE TOURNAMENT HAS STARTED

- In order to withdraw before the start of the tournament, the competitor must notify the tournament director.
- Any competitor who wishes to withdraw while the tournament is in progress must notify the bowlers on his or her pair and then receive permission from the tournament director. Failure to comply will result in a Conduct Violation.

TERMINATION /RELEASE CLAUSE

To the Executive Director of the United States Bowling Congress: I hereby make application to participate in this USBC championship event listed and tender the entry fees required therefore. I warrant that I am a USBC member. I agree to abide by all tournament playing rules and regulations prescribed by USBC, including all provisions set forth on this form. I specifically agree for myself and any replacement chosen by me or for me that if I am not eligible for participation and/or cannot bowl in the event, then my prize, bowling, and expense fees shall be forfeited and all sums tendered by me as prize, bowling and expense fee may be retained by USBC as liquidated damages. The entrant whose name appears hereon or my authorized replacement hereby agrees that the USBC, its officers and agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning entry fees, less expenses, if and when that entrant shall be prevented from bowling any event in the tournament through premature termination of the tournament, which may be brought about by war, national emergency or emergencies or causes relating thereto resulting therefrom, fires, labor difficulties, terrorism or threats of terrorism, or other causes beyond the control of USBC. I further agree that USBC may use my name and likenesses (including video) for promotional purposes at no cost to me and with no fees being paid to me. The entrant whose name appears on this application and/or authorized replacement hereby agrees that the USBC, and its officers and agents, shall not be liable for any injury resulting from participation in bowling in the event, absent willful or gross negligence on the part of USBC.

Revised 2/9/2018