

European Zone

State Pepsi Director	Jennifer Clark	
E-mail Contact	clarkjennifer@gmail.com	
Phone Contact	0049-151-745-50189	
State Website	www.rheinpfalzba.com	
League Level Qualifying	NA	NA
Sectional Level Qualifying	April 27, 2024	Ramstein Bowling Center (Kaiserslautern, GE)
State Finals	April 27-29, 2024	Ramstein Bowling Center (Kaiserslautern, GE)
State Finals Certification Number		Cert. #05174
Rules	See Below	



2023-24 EUROPEAN ZONE USBC PEPSI YOUTH BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS **Bowler Instructions**

(ATHLETES MUST SEE THESE RULES)

1. The European Zone Youth Championships is certified by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) under sanction #05174 for the Tournament competition. This championship is governed by USBC rules and hosted by the European Zone Tournament Committee.
2. Competition is open to all registered 2023-24 USBC Youth members. To compete, a bowler must be a regular member of a certified USBC sanctioned league, have "US Military affiliation" and not be under suspension. League substitutes can participate if it is their only USBC Youth league. USBC Collegiate members are eligible if they are 2023-24 USBC Youth members, bowl in a USBC sanctioned league and have not violated USBC Rule 400. **U06-U10 Regional Level Competition will be held on 27 April 2024 at the Ramstein Bowling Center in Kaiserslautern, Germany (GE). The U12-U18 Zone Level Competition will be held on 27-29 April 2024 also at the Ramstein Bowling Center.**
3. All USBC Youth members that are eligible for this competition automatically qualify into the next level. There will be **NO League Level Qualification Round**. Bowling centers having 2023-24 USBC certified sanctioned leagues are automatically league level qualified sites and there is a **one-to-one ratio directly to the next level**.
4. Competition will be conducted in 12 divisions based on the participant's age as outlined below. Participation in the wrong age division will lead to automatic disqualification. Bowlers must stay in the given division in that league throughout the entire window:
 - A. **U06-U10 Regional Level Competition:**
 - ➔ U06 Boys - Girls Bowlers whose birth date is 1Aug17 or later
 - ➔ U08 Boys - Girls Bowlers whose birth date is 1Aug15 thru 31Jul17
 - ➔ U10 Boys - Girls Bowlers whose birth date is 1Aug13 thru 31Jul15
 - B. **U12-U18 Zone Level Competition:**
 - ➔ U12 Boys - Girls Bowlers whose birth date is 1Aug11 thru 31Jul13
 - ➔ U15 Boys - Girls Bowlers whose birth date is 1Aug08 thru 31Jul11
 - ➔ U18 Boys - Girls Bowlers whose birth date is 1Aug05 thru 31Jul08

ALL PEPSI EVENTS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON A **SCRATCH BASIS ONLY**

***Athletes are not mandated to be USBC Junior Gold members to enter the U12, U15 and U18 Division Zone Level Competition.**

5. Entry fees for the European Zone Championships (Regional and Final) are as follows:
(Please note entry fees are NON-REFUNDABLE and once names are submitted the entry fees become OBLIGATED)

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U6	
Lineage	\$5.00
Expenses	\$10.00
Scholarship	\$15.00
Total	\$30.00

U8 and U10	
Lineage	\$ 7.50
Expenses	\$ 10.00
Scholarship	\$ 22.50
Total	\$ 40.00

U12, U15 and U18	
Lineage	\$ 25.00
Expenses	\$ 10.00
Scholarship	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 60.00

6. Scholarship fees will be returned 100% to the athlete. Scholarship funds will be forwarded and maintained in the SMART Program at USBC, the contact information is as follows: toll free 1-800-514-2695 (extension 8968). **SMART Account Number is 8557.** Scholarships will be awarded to the **top 50%** within each division of the 12 divisions.

7. Symbolic special awards will be awarded for High Scores from the entire tournament and given as follows:

<u>REGIONAL's</u>	<u>FINAL's (ZONE LEVEL)</u>
U6, U8 & U10 (Boys and Girls)	U12, U15 & U18 (Boys and Girls)
High Game (\$50 SMART Award)	High Game (\$50 SMART Award)
	High 5 Game Series (\$100 SMART Award)

NOTE: The same bowler will not receive both special awards. High Series will have precedence.

8. Participants can attempt to qualify in any state/zone where they hold a 2023-24 USBC Youth membership card. However, the bowler can only advance once using the following criteria:

A. Advancers out of league level must remain in the division they qualified in during all subsequent levels.

B. If a bowler qualifies in different leagues from multiple divisions, the bowler must select one division they will compete in before subsequent competition.

C. If the bowler advances out of league level in more than one state/zone, the bowler **must** declare one state/zone to continue competing in before the next competition level.

D. Bowlers must declare within each league if they chose to "opt up" to a higher age division. All bowlers that choose to "opt up" must complete a **WAIVER FORM** prior to the competition.

E. Bowlers will remain in the division they qualified in during the league level in all subsequent competition. Participation in the wrong age division will lead to automatic disqualification.

F. Junior Gold members who have already earned an entry in the 2023-24 Junior Gold Championships can still enter and participate in additional Junior Gold qualifying events. **However, because an athlete can only earn one entry into the Junior Gold Championships, he/she must accept his/her first berth.**

9. The tournament format shall be as follows:

All Athletes will be allowed 10 minutes of practice on their starting lanes. In case of lane breakdown during practice athletes will be allowed to finish their 10 minutes of practice. If lane breakdown occurs during competition there will be 2 practice balls per lane authorized. Athletes arriving late shall begin play and the score

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shall count beginning with the frame being bowled. Missed frames will not be made up and shall be credited with a zero. An athlete that is not present to bowl when it is their turn will be credited with a zero for that frame.

A. Regional Level Competition:

- 1) U6 Divisions will bowl two (2) games on one pair of lanes. Bumpers will be activated on U6 Division lanes.
- 2) U8 and U10 Divisions will bowl three (3) games on one pair of lanes.
- 3) U6, U8, U10 Bowlers will not shift lanes after each game.

B. Zone Level Competition:

- 1) U12, U15 and U18 Divisions will bowl five (5) games each day on Day 1 and Day 2 for a total of 10 games.
- 2) Bowlers will move one lane to the left if on an odd numbered lane and one lane to the right if on an even numbered lane.
- 3) Ties for the first qualifying position will result in a one-game roll-off.

C. Side Tournaments: All these tournaments are open to any USBC sanctioned youth and the tournament dress code will not be enforced. However, there will be NO sleeve-less shirts, bare mid-sections, or showing of undergarments. Additionally, clothing containing advertisements depicting alcohol, tobacco, gambling, inappropriate language, or gestures are also not permitted and the participant will be unable to partake in tournament play until appropriate attire is obtained and worn.

- 1) No-Tap Ice Breaker. This tournament will be held on the Friday evening before the Competition at Ramstein. The cost is \$25 per individual for a three (3) game series. U08 bowlers will use 7-pin No Tap, U10-U12 bowlers will use 8-pin No Tap, and U15-U18 bowlers will use 9-pin No Tap. Only the lanes can be set to different No-Tap options. All proceeds will be distributed to the youth in the form of SMART scholarship at a ratio of 1:4. The oil pattern for this event will be used on the U6-U10 lanes Saturday.
- 2) Adult/Youth Baker Style Tournament. This tournament will be held on Saturday evening after the first day of bowling. The cost is \$45 for the team of one (1) adult and two (2) youth bowlers. All proceeds from this tournament will be distributed in the form of SMART scholarships to the youth in the final 5 teams. The oil pattern for this event will be used on the lanes Sunday.
- 3) Adult/Youth Scotch Doubles. This tournament will be held after the last day of competition after results are announced. Two Youth bowlers are authorized for this tournament if enough adult bowlers are not available to participate. Price for this event is \$30.00 per team and all proceeds will be distributed to the youth in the form of SMART scholarship as a ratio of 1:4. The oil pattern used will be a regular house pattern.

10. The established **Dress Code** must be strictly adhered to during competition as well as **during awards presentations**. The dress code shall be as follows:

A. Athletes must wear a collared shirt (plain t-shirts are not acceptable) or the USBC or League Youth Jersey. All shirts must have finished sleeves for all competition. Only full-length pants/slacks will be allowed for all males and females during all competition. If the pants have beltloops they must be belted at the waist. Females may also wear skirts, capris, skorts, or walking shorts that are no shorter than the fingertips when the arms are at their sides while standing. All apparel worn by bowlers shall be loose fitting and **NOT made of denim, fleece, or Lycra/spandex-like material. NO jeans of any color, bib overalls, yoga pants, scooters, warm-up suits or clothes with drawstring waists or elastic bottoms will be allowed.**

B. Apparel must be in good repair (no holes, tears, frays, etc.) and must not display any obscene gestures, profanity, tobacco/alcohol advertisements, or graphic/offensive material. No writing on or defacing of the bowling shirts will be permitted at any time.

C. Apparel will be checked at check in. If a bowler changes in the time between check in and the start of bowling, they must inform a tournament official so their outfit can be rechecked.

D. No head covering, or sunglasses can be worn during competition (hats, caps, or bandanas).

E. **No cell phones, headphones or electronics** of any kind can be used in the bowlers' area during competition.

F. **Only the U6, U8 and U10 bowlers during "REGIONAL" competition can wear jeans.**

11. Only athletes, tournament officials and scorekeepers will be allowed in the pit area.

12. Displays of unsportsmanlike conduct by athletes will be basis for disqualification. Unsportsmanlike conduct by any spectator will result in the removal of that spectator from the bowling center. Parents are asked to refrain from being overzealous during the youth competition or from coaching unless the bowler asks for help.

13. Smoking and drinking alcohol is not authorized by competitors during tournament competition at any time (before/during/after competition play), within or around the Bowling Centers. Parents and guests are permitted to smoke outside the bowling centers, but **no one involved with the tournament can drink alcohol during competition.** **Outside Food is not allowed in the Bowling Center.**

14. The top one (1) bowler in the U12, U15 and U18 divisions from both Boys and Girls at the European Zone Pepsi Youth Championships competition with the highest scratch score (total cumulative pin fall for all 10 games, with the exception of tie breaking games, bowled by the athlete during the competition) will earn a berth to the Junior Gold Championships to be held **08-22 July 2024 in Detroit, Michigan.** The six bowlers are not required be a Junior Gold Program member at the European Zone Pepsi Youth Championships. However, to receive the berth, the bowler must be a Junior Gold program member or be eligible for membership (all USBC Youth Standard Members are eligible) and obtain membership prior to the championships. Junior Gold Membership application must be submitted at the close of this tournament. All winners are responsible for completing registration requirements located on the USBC Junior Gold Tournament website (<http://www.bowl.com/>).

If the winner is not willing to purchase USBC Junior Gold Membership for the championships, he/she will still retain all awards from the European Zone Youth Championships, but the next eligible bowler will receive the berth to the Junior Gold Championships. This also applies if the winner already has a berth for the Junior Gold Championships from a prior tournament.

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15. Eligible advancers **must agree** to bowl in the Junior Gold Championships and provide flight confirmation NLT 31 May 2024, or failing to do so, agree to waive all rights to attend the championships and will refund any ancillary funding provided for travel to the championships. The designated alternate replacement from their division at the zone level will attend and must therefore also be a Junior Gold program member. The replacement will incur all costs associated with travel arrangements.

16. Failure to abide by any rules and regulations will lead to disqualification from this event. The USBC Youth Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any participant.

17. The European Zone Tournament Committee in conjunction with the USBC Pepsi Youth Championships National Tournament Committee will decide all matters not covered by these rules and regulations, or USBC rules and regulations. Claims for errors in scoring or general playing rules must be made to the tournament committee immediately upon detection. The tournament committee shall decide upon questionable errors. **All other protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament director before the awards are presented.** Under this rule, each protest must be specific. The tournament will not be delayed if possible.

ALL BOWLERS MUST SEE AND UNDERSTAND THESE RULES

Tournament Director: Jennifer Clark
Telephone Numbers: 0049-151-745-50189
Email Address: clarkjenmnifer@gmail.com