

SENIOR TRIO MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE RULES 2026 -2027

1. **CERTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT:** The Buffaloe Lanes North Senior Trio Mixed Bowling League will be certified by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) through the Capital Area USBC Association (CAUSBCA). The league Board of Directors (officers and team captains) will manage the league. The quorum for Board meetings is a majority of the Board. The league membership will elect officers and adopt rules at the organizational meeting prior to the start of the league schedule. At least one officer must be male and at least one must be female. All members must be at least 50 years-of-age.

President:	Tom Huang	352-514-2762
Vice President:	Carolece Scotton	940-594-6618
Secretary:	Carmen Gunther	919-210-5928
Treasurer:	Lucy Aikens	919-554-0218
Sargent-At Arms:	Joey Taylor / Jessica Blanco-Smith	443-676-3988 / 919-671-0854

2. **SCHEDULE** – The league is scheduled to bowl at 12:25 pm (practice to begin at 12:15pm) on Tuesdays for 34 sessions beginning August 25, 2026, and ending April 27, 2027. The league will bowl a season split in thirds. (11 weeks each). Position rounds will be Week 11, 22 and 33. Week 34 will be for any necessary playoff and “Fun Day” bowling (to be determined by Prize Committee) followed by presentation of league awards. Games of any playoff and Fun Day will not count toward individual averages or any individual prizes referenced in the “PRIZES” rule.

Holidays: Sept 15 (Senior Games)
 December 29

3. **FEES** – Weekly fee is \$15.00 consisting of \$10.75 lineage and \$4.25 league fund. (League fund is \$3.75 prize fund and \$0.50 cents secretary/treasurer salary). League fees for final two weeks (\$30.00 per bowler) is to be paid in advance, no later than Week 5. This fee is not refundable.

Every bowler must pay or show proof of payment of USBC membership dues and required association membership fees in effect for the current season before completion of the bowler’s first series. (\$23 if paid in a Senior League).

WEEKLY FEE is to be paid by each member each session. You may pay in advance, however, if you are absent, the lineage fee is not refunded. The lineage fee of \$10.75 must be paid by everyone bowling on these days. This is not a guaranteed league. You only pay league fees if you are not bowling (\$4.25); you do not pay lineage.

Games are subject to forfeiture by any team whose participating members are not current in league payments. **Current is defined as no more than 2 weeks in arrears.**

A substitute bowling for a vacancy or absent bowler will pay full lineage \$10.75. Absent bowlers will pay \$4.25 league fee.

4. LEAGUE BANKING – An account will be opened in the league's name with Buffaloe Lanes North. Deposits and lineage payment must be made on the day of receipt. Withdrawals from the account may be made only with the joint signatures of at least two officers, one of which must be the secretary/treasurer.
5. TEAMS AND LINEUPS – Teams will have roster size and playing strength of three, any ratio of female/male. A fourth person may be on the roster. The fourth person may substitute for other teams. Team Captains will turn in rosters to the secretary prior to the start of the schedule. Any roster changes must be reported to the secretary before the new member bowls. A team minimum legal lineup is one team member. A minimum legal lineup must be present to complete the first frame of each game. A frame is considered completed when all bowlers present on each team have made his/her last deliveries in that frame.
6. PRIZES – A Prize List drawn up by a committee appointed by the President must be approved by league members within five weeks after the start of the schedule. Awards described in this rule will be given but the committee may recommend other individual and team awards. The following prizes will be awarded (male and female) listed in order of value from highest to lowest: (1) High Average (2) High Series Scratch (3) High Series Hdcp (4) High Game Scratch (5) High Game Hdcp (6) Most Improved (7) High Team Scratch Game (8) High Team Scratch Series (9) High Team Hdcp Game (10) High Team Hdcp Series (11) First through Fourth Teams Playing in Final Playoff.

To qualify for individual awards bowlers must bowl two-thirds of the scheduled games but no individual can qualify for more than one prize. A bowler qualifying for more than one will receive only the one of greatest value based on the above list. If a substitute later becomes a regular league member, games bowled as substitute will be included in the required number of games, but scores bowled will not qualify for game or series awards.

Teams may win only one award. If a team does not pay all fees, any team prize award will be adjusted accordingly.

Recipients of the USBC Most Improved Bowler Award will be determined as stated in USBC Rules except that improvement will be determined by comparing the final average for the season with entering average. If average was established in the first bowling session, final average will be compared to average after 12 games.

7. AVERAGES – Entering average will be used for the first nine games after which average will be calculated based on games bowled. Entering average will be based on the following list, using the first item that applies. (1) Average of at least 21 games in this league as of April 15 in the previous winter season. (2) Highest CAUSBCA yearbook average of at least 21 games in the previous season. (3) Highest average from the previous season in any league as shown in USBC records. (4) If none of the above applies, an average will be established in

the first session of bowling which must begin with game one of the scheduled three game series bowled in the same day.

8. HANDICAP – Individual handicap is 100% of the difference between an individual's average and 210.
9. SUBSTITUTES - A list of roving substitutes will be maintained. Substitutes cannot qualify for league awards. (See PRIZE rule) Substitutes will use entering averages as stated in AVERAGES rule. No one may bowl for more than one team for the regular scheduled games each week. Substitutes who have bowled at least 9 GAMES in the league are allowed to bowl the final two weeks of each third and in any playoff.
10. – ABSENTEE AND VACANCY SCORES - Absent bowler score will be Average less 10 pins and vacancy score will be 110 with handicap of 90. If an individual on a roster is absent the first session of bowling and a substitute does not bowl, a vacant score will be used. This procedure will be used until the individual is present and bowls.
11. FORFEITS – When bowling in a known forfeit situation, the team present must bowl at least the team average less fifteen pins per player in order to earn points for the game won and at least team series less 45 pins per player to earn points for series won, regardless of individual scores. Points not won for failing to bowl the prescribed scores shall not be credited to either team.
12. PREBOWLING AND POSTBOWLING (1) A request for pre-bowl/post bowl must be made by contacting officer at least 48 hours before the scheduled time, except for emergencies. In case of emergency, the Captain of the requesting team shall contact a league officer at the earliest possible opportunity. The opposing team may be notified, as a courtesy, when any pre-bowl/post bowl is granted so they may also pre-bowl or post-bowl if they choose. Individuals may not pre-bowl or post bowl alone; it is done by team only. No substitutes are allowed during pre-bowling or post-bowling.

The league shall grant postponements for emergencies when a team fails to appear for its scheduled match due to reasons beyond its control. All postponed games must be made up before the next scheduled league session. Team bowling unopposed is allowed. A league officer or representative may be present. If a representative is not available, any scoring changes must be made by House staff. Arrangements to bowl must be made with House. Pre-bowling or Post bowling should be the exception.
13. TARDY BOWLERS - A bowler who arrives late for the scheduled bowling session may enter the game providing three frames have not been completed by the opposing team and the tardy bowler is in the bowling area ready to bowl. In this situation, frames missed may be made up. If the bowler arrives after the third frame, the bowler may bowl as a pacer for the game with score not counting if both teams agree or the tardy bowler can bowl starting with next game.

14. –SCORING - Nine-point scoring will be used. Two points for each game, three points for series. If a tie exists for first place at the end of any third, a one-game playoff will be held to break the tie immediately following completion of scheduled bowling of that third. Playoff format depends on whether the tied teams bowled each other in that session. If two teams bowled each other, those two will bowl one frame, scored like a tenth frame on the lanes on which they just bowled. Handicap will be one-tenth of the per game handicap. If two teams are tied and did not bowl each other (or if more than two teams are tied) those teams will bowl one game on lanes on which no tied teams just bowled. Handicaps will be used.
15. PLAYOFF FOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP –If a team wins first place in all thirds, that team will be declared league champion. All other team standings would be determined by YTD points won. If a team wins first place in two thirds, that team and the other team that won a third will qualify for the playoffs. They will be joined by two Wild Card teams with the most YTD points that did not win a Third and bowl a three-game playoff as described below. If three different teams win a Third, they will be joined by the “Wild Card” team and bowl a three-game playoff on Week 34 to determine the league champion. Lane assignments will be by random drawing. Playoff will be conducted as described in Rule 14. Teams bowling in this playoff will bowl at 11 am that day. Any tie-breaking bowling costs charged by the House will be paid out of league funds. All other team standings will be determined by YTD points won.
16. WEATHER – If a session is cancelled because the Bowling Center closes due to inclement weather, the Board (officers and team captains) will discuss options and decide what action to take regarding making up the session or revising the schedule. If the Bowling Center remains open during inclement weather, the league officers will decide based on weather conditions and notify the Bowling Center by 10 AM on the day of bowling. Bowlers should contact Buffaloe Lanes, North, at 919-876-5681 or check their website (www.buffaloelanesnorth.com) for League status. In any case, USE YOUR OWN BEST JUDGEMENT. If other schedule-related issues arise, league officers will decide what action to take, notify the Bowling Center, and attempt to notify team captains who will attempt to contact team members. Members should contact the Bowling Center if there is any doubt – 919-876-5681 or www.buffaloelanesnorth.com
17. MISCELLANEOUS – If a team or individual resigns from the league during the season, two weeks’ notice must be given, and two weeks league fund must be paid to the league. No league member (or substitute, if practicable) is to practice on scheduled lanes less than one hour prior to scheduled match. Pacing is permitted if teams involved agree and if no more than six bowlers are on the pair of lanes. Pacers are responsible for paying lineage. TEAM CAPTAINS should turn in money envelopes to the secretary/treasurer by the end of the third frame of the first game. **TEAM CAPTAINS SHOULD COUNT MONEY AND MAKE SURE EVERY BOWLER HAS PAID AND MONEY IN ENVELOPE IS CORRECT.**

Any situation not covered by these rules will be governed by USBC Rules.