

2026-2027 Buffaloe North Sport League Rules

Rule 1. Schedule

The Buffaloe North Sport Bowling league shall be sanctioned with the USBC through the local Capital Area USBC and will NOT be sanctioned as a sport league. Sanction is \$25.00

The league shall consist of **16** teams with a playing strength of **4** per team. The league will bowl on Tuesday for **34** weeks beginning on **August 25, 2026** and ending on **April 27, 2027**. All scheduled matches will start promptly at **6:30** pm. Practice will begin at **6:15** pm. (Holidays: **12/15 & 12/29**)

Rule 2. Salaries

Secretary / Treasurer will receive \$0.25 per bowler per night to be paid once all final averages have been submitted to the Association.

Rule 3. Fees

The amount to be paid by each bowler each night shall be **\$25.00** of which **\$14.50** will cover the cost of bowling, with the balance to be placed in the league treasury. No one may be more than 1 week in arrears. Anyone more than 1 week behind in league fees will not be eligible to bowl. The bowling fees for the last 2 weeks shall be paid by each member by the **5th** week of the schedule. This league becomes guaranteed after two weeks of bowling. **\$10.25** shall be considered prize fund.

Rule 4. League Funds

An account shall be held in the in-house banking account in which funds will be deposited weekly. Withdrawals from the account shall be made only with the joint signatures of at least two authorized officers of the league.

Rule 5. Prizes

The president shall appoint a committee of 4 members to draw up 4 prize lists. To qualify for individual awards, a bowler must have bowled in at least two-thirds of the scheduled games (66 games). The individual awards are as follows; high average male/female, high scratch series, male/female, and high scratch game male/female. In handicap leagues, special prizes and awards shall be on handicap basis.

Rule 6. Entering Averages

Bowlers will establish averages after their first three (3) games in this league. We will use a cumulative average for the entire season.

Rule 7. Handicap

The handicap will be 80% of 210.

Rule 8. Team Rosters

Captains will turn in rosters of team members to the secretary prior to the start of the schedule. Teams will be allowed to carry a 5th roster member; however, that person may not sub for another team and must have bowled 3 games in league play to be eligible for any position round or roll-off. Any roster change must be reported to the league secretary prior to the new team member bowling.

Rule 9. Substitutes

A list of roving or floating substitutes will be maintained by the league. No one may bowl with more than one team for the regularly scheduled games each week. Subs must have bowled at least 12 games in this league in the first third, 24 games for the first 2 thirds, and 36 for all thirds to bowl in the position rounds.

Rule 10. Legal Line-up

A minimum legal line-up must include two bowlers, at least 1 player from a team's current roster and 1 substitute.

If a vacant is present, the vacant will not count as a legal lineup

Rule 11. Absentee & Vacancy Scores

Absentee scores shall be the absent member's average less ten pins. The handicap shall be figured on the actual average of the absentee. When a team does not have enough players on their roster for a full line-up, a vacancy score of **150** shall be used for average, such score minus 10 pins (**140**) shall be used as the score.

A vacancy can only win an individual point if the opposing bowler doesn't bowl within 10 pins of their average.

****If a bowler is out due to injury or other circumstance and not returned by week 3 they will be dropped to the sub list and a vacancy score will count****

To win points against the vacancy the bowler must bowl 10 pins or less of their average. Team within 40 of team average.

Rule 12. Postponements

Due to specific lane conditions, pre/post bowling is not allowed. If your team will not be able to field a legal lineup, you will use your absent scores for the scheduled week of bowling that will be missed.

Rule 13. Bowling Unopposed

Unopposed bowling will be allowed.

Rule 14. Tardy Players

A bowler who arrives late may enter the game provided three (3) frames have not been completed or 6:45 EST. Frames missed may be made up.

Rule 15. Position Standings

Position standings will be determined by a Match Point system. 1,1,1,2 for individual & 2,2,2,4 for the team points. Max total of points is 30.

Rule 16. WITHDRAWALS

Any member or team must give a 2-week notice (written) to the captain and league secretary. The bowler must pay 2 weeks fee unless replaced by another bowler within that period.

Rule 17. Lane Patterns

Weeks	Pattern	Distance
1-3	2025 Team USA Trials Men Day 2	36
4-6	2025 US Open (Pattern 4)	41
7-9	2026 US Women's Open (Pattern 1)	45
10-12	2025 PBA Bat	37
13-15	2025 PBA Viper	38
16-18	2024 PBA Shark	48
19-21	2025 PBA Cheetah	35
22-24	2024 PBA Chameleon	39
25-27	2024 PBA Anthony	43
28-30	2025 US Open (Pattern 2)	37
31-33	2023 PWBA Stockton	43
34	2025 PBA Weber	45

Rule 20. Use of lanes before competition

On the night of competition there will be no open bowling by league or non-league bowlers, on the league assigned lanes once they have been conditioned for sport competition, until official practice begins at 6:15pm.

Rule 21. Play-Offs

League will be contested in 3/11-week thirds.

The winner of each third will compete in the roll off with a wildcard team. The wildcard team will be the team with the most points for the season without having won a third.

If a team wins two thirds, there will be an additional wild card team added. If a team wins all three thirds, they will be named the league champion for the Buffalo Team Championship spot.

A third wildcard team will be added for the playoffs to determine overall league champion. Remaining teams will compete in non-roll-off tourney night.

All points end week 33

Stepladder Finals for Roll-Off

Seeds determined as follows:

1 seed: Third winner with the most overall points for the season

2 seed: Third winner with the 2nd most overall points for the season

3 seed: Third winner with the 3rd most overall points for the season

4 seed: Team with the most overall points for the season without winning a third.

Game 1: 3 seed vs. 4 seed on pair 1. Loser finishes 4th in the roll-off

Game 2: winner of game 1 vs. 2 seed on pair 1. Loser finishes 3rd in the roll-off

Game 3: Winner of game 2 vs 1 seed on pair 1 for the league championship.

Pair 2 will be for roll-off teams not currently competing to use as warm-up pair.

All other team positions will be determined by total points won for the season.

Position Rounds: Weeks 11,22,33

Roll off week: Week 34

Any rule not covered here will be governed by the USBC Rulebook

OFFICERS:

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