

Handicappers Mixed Bowling League Rules (updated 8/21/2025)

2025-26 Season

LEAGUE OFFICERS:

President: Cookie Fuentes – (252) 204-9676 – 07aleta58@gmail.com

Vice President: Roger Williams – (919) 749-3056 – 7318.bills@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Lloyd – (919) 949-9392 – bowla800@gmail.com

Sergeant at Arms: Kevin Garrison – (919) 417-3506 – kegarrison@wakemed.org

Rule 1. SCHEDULE

The Handicappers Mixed Bowling league shall be sanctioned with the USBC and their local association CA-USBC. The league shall consist of 20 teams with a bowling strength of 5 and a minimum ratio of 4:1 men and women per team. The league will bowl on Thursday night for 34 weeks commencing August 28, 2025. The league's anticipated completion of the 34-week season is May 7, 2026. All scheduled matches will start promptly at 6:30PM with practice at 6:15PM. There is no league bowling on November 27th, December 25th and January 1st.

Rule 2. MANAGEMENT

The management of this league shall be vested in the board of directors, which shall consist of the officers and team captains. The league membership shall elect officers at the post-season (end of league May 2026) league meeting. The league rules shall be adopted at the pre-season meeting (beginning of league August 2025). A majority shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 3. FEES

The amount to be paid by each league member each night shall be \$23.00 of which \$14.00 will cover the cost of bowling (lineage), \$8.50 for the prize fund, and \$0.50 for the secretary/treasurer's fee. The last 2 weeks shall be paid by each member before completion of the 5th week of bowling.

If a bowler starts after the first week of bowling, he/she will be responsible for paying just the prize fund portion of league fees from the beginning of the season (\$8.50) plus secretary/treasurer fee of (\$0.50) for total of (\$9.00) per night missed.

Rule 4. ARREARAGES

No league member is allowed to be in arrears on league fees for more than 2 weeks. Teams must be paid up in order to have a sub for an absent league member. Teams are responsible for all money. If a league member is 2 weeks in arrears, they cannot bowl. If a team uses an ineligible bowler, they will receive a score of 0 (zero) for that bowler.

Rule 5. SALARIES

The salary to be paid to the secretary/treasurer shall be \$0.50 per person per night and shall be paid at the completion of the league schedule. Full payment shall not be authorized until the secretary has furnished all average sheets, including ending averages for both men and women to the local association.

Rule 6. LEAGUE FUNDS

League funds shall be through in-house banking with Buffaloe Lanes North.

Rule 7. PRIZES

The president shall appoint a prize fund committee no later than the 5th week, and it will be voted on during the 6th week. To qualify for individual awards, a league member must bowl at least 66% of the scheduled games (as a regular league member). An individual is entitled to one team award and one individual award.

Rule 8. ENTERING AVERAGES

Entering averages for regular league members, substitutes, and replacements will be their Handicapper's Mixed listed average at the end of the Fall 2024/2025 season as long as their average has a minimum of 21 games. This will be used for the first 3 games of the new league season.

Entering averages for non-Handicapper's Mixed bowlers will be their highest listed average of 21 games or more for the Fall 2024/2025 season on Bowl.com for their first 3 games of the new league season.

Entering averages for all others will be determined using the first 3 games bowled for handicapping and eligibility purposes.

Rule 9. HANDICAP

The handicap allowance shall be 90% and shall be based on the differences between each individual's average and a scratch figure of 220. The team handicap for each scheduled match shall be the sum of the individual handicaps for the players in the lineup.

Rule 10. TEAM ROSTERS

The appointed team captain of each team will provide a roster of team members to the secretary prior to the start of the league schedule. Rosters will be limited to 6 players. Any roster changes must be reported to the league secretary prior to the new team member(s) bowling. The sixth bowler may not bowl on any other team. Sixth team members must be added prior to the 11th week of each third and have an established average in the league to be eligible for the position rounds and roll-off.

Rule 11. SUBSTITUTES

A list of roving or floating substitutes shall be maintained by the league. No one may bowl with more than one team for the regularly scheduled games each week. Men may substitute for women and women may substitute for men. The 4:1 ratio of the team must be maintained. No substitutes will be permitted in position rounds and the roll-off.

Rule 12. LEGAL LINEUP

A minimum legal lineup must include at least 2 regular members from a team's roster and a substitute. A team must have a legal lineup by the time the opposing team has completed the 1st frame. If not, the game is forfeited.

Rule 13. FORFEITURES

When a game is forfeited, the opposing team must bowl within 75 pins of their team average in order to be awarded the game points for the win. The opposing team must bowl within 225 pins of their team series average in order to be awarded the series point for the win.

Rule 14. ABSENTEE AND VACANCY SCORES

Absentee scores shall be allowed when a team has a legal lineup, but less than a full lineup at the start of any game in the series. The absentee score shall be the absent member's average less 10 pins. The handicap shall be figured on the actual average of the absentee member. When a team does not have enough bowlers on its roster for a full lineup, a vacancy average of 120 shall be used. Such scores shall be the basis for the handicap. Score for the vacancy

will be a 110 with the handicap based on 120. If a team has a vacancy for 5 weeks, on the sixth week they will have to use a vacancy of 100 going forward.

If a team uses an absentee score and has a sixth person on their roster, then the absentee bowler's score will be based on the bowler who has the most games as long as the 4:1 ratio is maintained.

Rule 15. POSTPONEMENTS

All league games shall be bowled as scheduled unless they are postponed or pre-bowled by authorization of the leagues' Board of Directors or Postponement Committee. The league Board of Directors shall determine what shall be sufficient cause to grant postponement or allow teams to bowl unopposed. Pre-bowled games shall be given the same considerations. The handicap as of the date games are bowled shall be used. All postponements must be requested at least 24 hours prior to the time of the scheduled match except those granted for emergencies. Postponed games must be bowled within 7 days of the date of scheduled competitions. The league shall grant postponements for emergencies when a team fails to appear for its scheduled match due to reasons beyond their control. Such postponements must be made up within 7 days of the date of scheduled competition unless league authorizes more time. All postponed games must be bowled prior to the position round. No pre or post bowling is permitted during the weeks of position rounds or roll-off.

The following persons comprise the postponement committee:

Tracey Williams – (919) 417-1604 – wolfpack920@bellsouth.net

Roger Williams – (919) 749-3056 – 7318.bills@gmail.com

Rule 16. BOWLING UNOPPOSED

When a team is bowling unopposed due to an odd number of teams, they shall bowl as though the game was contested. The team must bowl within 75 pins of their total current average per game and within 225 pins of their team series average in order to win the corresponding points.

Rule 17. TARDY PLAYERS

A league member who arrives late may enter the game provided the anchor bowler on the opposing team has not completed the 3rd frame. Pacing will be allowed if the bowler arrives after the 3rd frame and after the first 10 minutes of competition beginning, but their score will not be included in the team total. Pacing is just for the tardy regular league member to practice (pick up where game is, no make-up frames).

Rule 18. POSITION STANDINGS

Standings shall be determined on a point basis with 2 points awarded for each game won and 1 point for the high team series in the match.

Rule 19. PRE OR POST BOWLING

There is no individual pre or post bowling. If pre or post bowling is allowed by the board of directors, teams post bowling can see the final recap sheet of the opposing team. All scheduled matches pre or post shall qualify for certain USBC awards (see rule 204 for clarification). The team that is pre or post bowling must notify the opposing team and give them the opportunity to bowl at the same time. New teams shall be granted pre or post bowling in the first 2 weeks of the schedule only to establish a legal lineup for a team. No substitutes are allowed during pre or post bowling.

Rule 20. POSITION ROUNDS

The league will consist of 3 position rounds over 33 weeks (week 11, 22 and 33). In the event of a tie for first place in the standings at the end of the 11th, 22nd, or 33rd week, position standings will be determined by a 9th and 10th frame roll-off that night between the tied teams.

All team and individual awards are finished at end of week 33. Week 34 is for tournament and roll-off only. Pairing for the position rounds will be as follows: 1st place team will bowl 2nd place team, and 3rd place will bowl 4th place team, etc. The total points in the series will determine final standings. If a team wins more than one third, there will be an additional wild card team added, thus, two teams with the most total points for the season.

The three 1ST place teams and the wild card team (the team with the most total points for the year) will be in the roll-off. If a team wins all three thirds, they are the champion. The league will still have a roll-off for 2nd, 3rd and 4th place standings with three wild card teams. In the event of a tie for first place on Week 34, a one game roll-off shall be bowled on a neutral pair of lanes.

There will be no substitutes allowed during weeks 11, 22, 33 or 34.

Rule 21. BOWLING OUT

There is no bowling out. In the event a player must leave before completing any game he/she must take 10% of their absentee average for the remaining frames of the game for team total purposes. The game for the individual will be considered incomplete and will not be applied toward their individual total pins.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

❖ PLEASE TURN IN MONEY ENVELOPES TO THE LEAGUE SECRETARY BEFORE THE END OF THE 5TH FRAME OF 1ST GAME.

- ❖ USBC SANCTION FEES MUST BE PAID ON 1ST NIGHT OF BOWLING (\$25). IF PAYING BY CHECK, MAKE PAYABLE TO: CAPITAL AREA USBC OR CA-USBC.
- ❖ FINAL TWO WEEKS BOWLING FEES (\$46.00) ARE DUE BY THE 5th WEEK.
- ❖ NO PRACTICE ALLOWED ON YOUR SCHEDULED LANES PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MATCH.
- ❖ IF A TEAM OR INDIVIDUAL MUST RESIGN FROM THIS LEAGUE DURING THE SEASON, 2 WEEK'S NOTICE IN WRITING AND 2 WEEK'S PAYMENT MUST BE GIVEN TO THE LEAGUE.
- ❖ THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS USING THE CURRENT USBC RULE BOOK SHALL DECIDE ANYTHING NOT COVERED BY THE LEAGUE RULES.
- ❖ ANY NEW SUBSTITUTE MUST FILL OUT A SANCTION CARD AND PAY \$25.00, IF NOT ALREADY SANCTIONED (1ST TIME SUB). IF SUBSTITUTE IS ALREADY SANCTIONED BY ANOTHER ASSOCIATION, THEN \$9.00 FEE FOR CA-USBC ASSOCIATION IS DUE. IF SUBSTITUTE IS ALREADY SANCTIONED IN ANOTHER STATE, THEN \$10.00 FEE FOR CA-USBC ASSOCIATION IS DUE.
- ❖ A COPY OF THESE RULES WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL TEAM CAPTAINS.