



United States Bowling Congress

Wednesday Fun Fours



League rules for the 2026/27 season

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This is an adult league, and all bowlers must be a minimum of 18 years of age to bowl in the league. This bowling league shall consist of 11 teams* with a Player Strength of 4 players. Teams maybe comprised of any combination of gender. The league will bowl on Wednesday night for 31 weeks, including sweeper, commencing September 2ND. All scheduled matches shall start at 6:45pm with shadow bowling at 6:35pm. Tardy bowlers shall not be allowed to start after the last bowler on the opposing team has finished bowling the 3rd frame. This league will be sanctioned with the USBC through the local association of Central Sonoma County USBC (CSCUSBC). The management of the league shall rest in the board of Directors. The board of Directors shall consist of the officers (listed above) and team captains. (Also, USBC Rule 103a applies.)

FEES: weekly:	Bowling fees	<u>\$20.00</u>	Sanction:	Men's fee	<u>\$25.00</u>
	Secretary fees	<u>\$1.00</u>		Women's fee	<u>\$25.00</u>
	Prize Fund	<u>\$3.00</u>			
			Total league fees		<u>\$24.00</u>

If you do not bowl for the first two weeks of the bowling season you are not required to pay the lineage fee of \$20.00. The non "Additional Players" regular members on a current team roster are required to pay the weekly total fees of \$24.00 each week whether they bowl or not. (Also see rule below about substitute bowlers.) The league will allow a one-week grace period on payment of league fees if needed. The League President and League Treasurer must approve special arrangements for anyone to be more than one week in arrear. After the league has tried to work out an agreement for a bowler to pay off any arrearage they have and if that agreement fails, that bowler will be subject to USBC suspension for "Improper conduct Rule 17B & Nonpayment of league fees under Rule 17B-3." (Also, see USBC rule 122b).

SPLIT SEASON: At the end of each third, a first-place winner (most points won) will be named, and the team's wins and losses will start over, but the individual averages of all bowlers will continue. A team's prize (Pin) money shall be determined by the team's total number of wins (points) for the entire season. If there are two or more segments, then a team may qualify only one time for the playoff. After a team has qualified, that team shall be disregarded when determining future teams for the playoff.

ROLL-OFF/PLAYOFF: When a split season of thirds is chosen the first-place team for each segment and a Wild Card team will bowl in the final playoff. The Wild Card team is the team that has the highest number of total wins during the season and is not a 1st place team from any third. The winners of the 1st and 2nd third and the winner of the 3rd third and the Wild Card team will be paired together to bowl the playoff.

In the event of a tie for first place at the end of any segment, the teams involved shall bowl a 2-frame roll-off that night (=9th & 10th frame*). And if needed an additional 1-frame (=10th frame*) will be bowled to resolve the tie for 1st place.

The playoff to determine the winner of the overall first place team or any trophy positions, will be a three-game series bowled on sweeper night (wk. 31) under the same conditions and rules governing league play during the regular season, total pins with handicap, shall determine the overall winner and any other trophy positions.

In the event of a tie at the end of the playoff series, the teams involved shall bowl a 2-frame roll-off that night (=9th & 10th frame*). And if needed an additional 1-frame (=10th frame*) will be bowled to resolve the tie. If any of the tie breakers above still end in a tie, a coin toss will determine the winner. Scores bowled in the final playoff (wky 31, sweeper night) shall not count toward individual or other prize awards (except sweeper night winners) offered by the league. Sweeper night scores will be included in your final average.

*With handicap(2 frames worth) and manual scoring. A special score sheet will be provided. (= means equivalent)

TROPHIES/PRIZE FUND:

1st place team	<u>4</u>	; High Scr. Series (M/F)	<u>2</u>	; Most improved bowler (M/F)	<u>2</u>
2nd place team	<u>4</u>	; High Scr. Game (M/F)	<u>2</u>	; Sweeper night winners (M/F)	<u>4</u>
3rd place team	<u>4</u>	; High Hdcp Series (M/F)	<u>2</u>		
4th place team	<u>4</u>	; High Hdcp Game (M/F)	<u>2</u>	Maximum Cost	<u>\$ 1200.00</u>

Individual prizes won as listed. Bowlers may win only one individual trophy. A regular member must bowl at least 30 games to win an individual trophy. Prior to the end of the schedule, the president shall appoint a committee of at least one member to draw up prize list. The trophy types and numbers above are typical and can be customize each season by the prize committee if the cost is under the "Maximum cost" listed above. The prize list must be approved by the board of directors and distributed to the team captains 1 week(s) before sweeper night.

RESIGNATION: Members of a league may withdraw from a league during a season (with sufficient cause).

1. If a team or individual must withdraw, the following procedure is to be followed:
 - a. Two weeks' notice must be given along with sufficient cause for resigning.
 - 1) The member resigning from a team shall give notice to the team's captain.
 - 2) The team shall give notice to the league secretary.

- b. The resigning member must pay league fees for two weeks if the bowler is not replaced after they stopped bowling. An "Additional Player" would be required to pay for up to 2 weeks, if they had already been scheduled, unless a replacement is found for those weeks.
2. If proper notice and sufficient cause is not given, all franchise, prize, and any other money for which the team or individual may have been eligible will be forfeited, unless the league board determines otherwise. In addition, the member(s) shall be subject to suspension of USBC membership. (See USBC rule 121)

LEAGUE FUNDS: An account shall be opened in the league's name at Exchange Bank. In which FUNDS SHALL BE DEPOSITED WEEKLY. The League President shall receive the bank statement monthly, verify that balances are correct and post it once a month on the league's website. Total league fees to the bowling alley shall be payable weekly by one check drawn on the league account, except possibly for the first week.

AVERAGES: Entering Averages of all players shall be determined in the following order:

- a. Use average established in this league last season, based on 21 games or more.
- b. Use highest average from previous season in any other sanctioned league, based on 21 games or more. (Look in the CSC USBC "Official Average Book 2025-2026" or from our league's last season records)
- c. Bowlers who do not have a qualifying average outlined in items a or b will establish their average the first night they bowl. Averages in items a or b will be used the first 9 games of the season. After 9 games the actual cumulative average bowled will be used from then on.

HANDICAPS: Individual handicap is 90% of the difference between 220 and the bowler's average. If a bowler's average goes over 220, they will have a negative handicap. Team handicap will be the sum of the team's individual member's handicaps.

SUBSTITUTES/ADDITIONAL PLAYERS: The league shall maintain a list of Roving or Assigned substitutes. Teams may have an "Additional Player(s)": A regular member of a team listed on the team roster who bowls when scheduled by the team captain. Additional Players are required to pay league fees. The first 4 team players listed on the standing sheet are the Primary Regular Members. The Primary Regular Members are non-Additional Players. The Primary Regular Members will be required to pay the League fee of \$24.00 per week**, even if they have a substitute bowler bowl for them. If the Additional Player is required to pay and they fail to do that, the league fee would default back to the Primary player they bowled for.

**First 2 weeks if absent only the prize/Sec. amount of \$4.00 required. And except when an Additional Player that is required to pay, bowls for them. (See attached USBC Team and Roster Definitions.)

The team captain must approve and manage all these arrangements.

LEGAL-LINEUP: There must be a minimum of 1 bowler for any game. Of that minimum there must be a minimum of 1 person from the current Primary Four Players or "Additional players" for any game. A Team's Primary Regular Members shall be limited to 4 players that are not Additional Players or Assigned subs. No new substitute bowlers the last 2 weeks of each section. A "new bowler" is anyone who has bowled less than 3 games in our league in the current season. The absentee score shall be the average, minus 10 pins. Additional Players if absent for a schedule night, have an absentee score. Any team short a bowler, shall use a vacancy score of 140 man 140 woman. USBC sanctioned pacers shall be allowed: YES NO .

SCORING: Each game won 1 point, high series 1 point, tie game or series ½ point.

FORFEITS: Any team bowling against a forfeit or BYE team shall subtract 40 pins from their team average and must then equal or exceed their reduced team average to win points. The forfeiting team shall score ZERO points.

UNEARNED POINTS: Points not won for failing to bowl the prescribed score will not be credited to either team.

PERSONAL CONDUCT: Team members only will be allowed in the settee area. Be ready to bowl when it is your turn. You never need to rush or hurry but, MAKE SURE YOU ARE READY TO BOWL WHEN THE PINS ARE READY. The Sgt. at Arms or one of the league officers shall have the authority to enter a zero for a frame if someone is excessively late for their turn to bowl. The determination of what excessively late is, rest with the Sgt. at Arms or a league officer.

BOWLING UNOPPOSED: Pre-Bowling unopposed allowed (no more than one week)? YES NO . Post-Bowling unopposed allowed? YES NO . (see USBC rulebook rule 117)

HOLIDAYS - NO BOWLING: November 25th & December 30th (see separate league calendar for league sponsored events and season split dates and other information)

BVL: The League will support US military veterans through BVL or another CSC USBC program.

Above rules have been read and approved (when the DRAFT watermark is removed). The above rules as approved in addition to the USBC's 2026/27 Rulebook make up the league rules. If any rule(s) above conflicts with the USBC's 2025/26 rulebook the rule(s) in the USBC's 2025/26 rulebook will supersede. League members will be informed that rules are on file and available for inspection. (See web page: <http://www.wffb bowling.com> then select current season and look for the link to league rules)

* Team numbers can be subject to change (to how many teams we actually get).



Team and Roster Definitions

The following definitions should answer any questions related to teams, rosters, regular players, substitutes and more.

Team – The regular members of the team.

Roster – A list of regular players on a team submitted by the team captain.

Playing strength – The maximum number of players that can bowl in a match.

Lineup – The order of the players who will bowl the match.

Legal lineup – The minimum number of eligible players that must be present to bowl by the completion of the first frame of any game, (unless the league adopts another frame) so games will not be forfeited.

Regular player – A USBC member listed on a team roster.

Additional player – A regular member of a team listed on the team roster who bowls when scheduled by the team. Additional players must have USBC membership before completing the first series and will be required to pay league fees. Additional players are eligible for league awards, can attend league meetings and have an absentee score.

Substitute – A player who bowls in place of an absent bowler or for a vacant position*. Substitutes are not team members, but must have USBC membership before completing the first series. Substitutes are not required to pay fees, are not eligible for league awards, cannot attend league meetings and have no absentee score. Substitutes should not be listed on the roster.

- **Roving** – A substitute may bowl with any team.
- **Assigned** – A substitute that can only bowl for one specified team. This substitute should not be on a team roster.

* If a substitute bowler bowls for a vacant position they must pay the lineage fee.

