

**American Bowling League  
Rules 2017-2018**

1. This league will bowl a 30-week schedule and be a USBC Open Sanctioned League.
2. Bowling will be \$11.00 per person per week. This includes \$9.00 for the Iris Bowling Center and \$2.00 for the League Prize Fund.
3. Sponsor fees are \$35 per team.
4. Secretary shall be reimbursed for lineage at the end of the season.
5. The League will operate on a four (4) point system. One (1) point for each game won and one (1) point for total pins in the series.
6. Teams will be five (5) players. Two (2) bowlers from the team's roster must be present for a legal line-up. If a team does not have a legal line-up, the opposing team must bowl within seventy-five (75) pins of the team's average or better each game to be awarded the points for that game and total.
7. No new bowlers will be permitted to bowl the last four (4) weeks of the schedule.
8. A roving substitute list will be in effect and will be posted regularly.
9. Handicap will be on an individual basis, 90 of the difference from 220 scratch.
10. Average and handicap will be established the first night.
11. Vacancy score for the first three (3) weeks will be 150, with a handicap of 63 pins.
12. Beginning week four (4), use blind vacancy score of 130 with 63 handicap if team is not filled.
13. If bowling against a blind or unopposed team, the team bowling must roll their total team average minus seventy-five (75) pins or better to win that game.
14. Blind score will be twenty (20) pins less than the bowler's average, plus handicap.
15. Tardy bowlers may make-up frames up to the third (3rd) frame. If the bowler is not present by the end of the third (3rd) frame, a Blind score must be used for that game. IF the opposing team allows a more generous time frame, the opposing bowler may make-up frames through the fifth (5th) frame.
16. Position rounds will be used at the discretion of the league. There will be no fewer than one (1) position round(s) each season.
17. Any team that enters the League after start of the season will be able to post-bowl the missed scheduled League sessions. If the post-bowl is not completed, the opposing team will bowl their score against the unopposed team. Points will be awarded to each team based on that result. The team joining the League is still financially liable for those nights missed to the League Prize Fund.
18. If a team will be absent or is absent for a regularly scheduled League session, that team may ask to pre-bowl or post-bowl the scheduled night.
19. If an entire team needs to leave due to emergency during a scheduled League session, the team may be allowed to post-bowl the remainder of the scheduled night from the point of departure.
20. If a paying bowler has a conflict that interferes with a scheduled league night, that individual may pre-bowl. No individual post bowling will be allowed.

21. All team post-bowling must be completed no later than two (2) weeks after the missed week or by the next position round, whichever comes first. All team unopposed post-bowling must be completed by the Sunday before the next scheduled session. There will be no post-bowling for the final week of the season.
22. Scores from pre- or post-bowling must be accompanied by the computer printout from the desk unless unavailable. IF unavailable, handwritten scores must be dated and initialed by the IBC employee working the desk. Also, post-bowling scores should also be submitted ASAP to the League Secretary via phone or e-mail so a correct standing sheet can be posted.
23. The money envelope must be correct each week regardless of pre- or post-bowling. IF a member is absent, they cannot be more than one (1) week late in payment. After one (1) week of non-payment, that member will be subject to League dismissal.
24. Team point money at the end of the season will still be determined by overall record.
25. Individual Awards: To be eligible for an individual award, a bowler must have completed two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of the League schedule--sixty (60) of the ninety (90) scheduled games. Individual Handicap Games and Series will be eligible after twelve (12) games bowled by that person. Trophies or plaques will be awarded to High Scratch Game, High Scratch Series, High Handicap Game, and High Handicap Series. Each category above will also have a cash award of \$30.00. A bowler may only qualify for one (1) cash award. If a bowler qualifies for more than one cash award, then the next highest score from a person who hasn't received a cash award will receive the cash award. The order of consideration will be as follows: High Scratch Series, High Scratch Game, High Handicap Series, and High Handicap Game.
26. A trophy will be presented for League High Average.
27. There will be a plaque or trophy and a \$20 cash award for the Most Improved Bowler.
28. Team Awards: To be eligible for a Team Award, the Team must bowl the entire season and be current in payment. Team Handicap scores will qualify after the team completes twelve (12) games. Cash awards of \$50.00 will be awarded to High Scratch Game, High Scratch Series, High Handicap game, and High Handicap Series. If a team qualifies for more than one (1) cash award, then the next highest score from a team who hasn't received a cash award will receive the cash award. The order of consideration will be as follows: High Scratch Series, High Scratch Game, High Handicap Series, and High Handicap Game.
29. Whenever there is a mechanical problem that would cause a team or teams to transfer to another pair of lanes, then each bowler is allowed one (1) practice ball on each lane.
30. In the event of a tie for first place, tie will be broken by a one (1) game roll-off to be bowled on neutral lanes.
31. League Officers are limited to five (5) continuous years in the same position.
32. Announcements will start at 6:45 p.m. with ten (10) minutes of shadow balls following the announcements. League bowling will not start prior to 7:00 p.m.

The *USBC Playing Rules* Book governs all other rules.

**League Officers**

President: Terry Reynolds (712-314-2191)

Vice President: Cristal Bain (385-3689)

Secretary/Treasurer: Myra Thomas (931-6059)