



2024 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS LANE MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS SUMMARY

February 26, 2024

****This document is intended to summarize the operations and transparency processes for the 2024 USBC Open Championships.****

1. WHO HAS ACCESS TO THE ACTUAL PATTERN DATA AND GRAPHS FOR THE TOURNAMENT?

a. The pattern information is contained to the people listed below:

i. All Pattern Information

1. Chad Murphy, USBC Executive Director
2. Greg Moore, USBC Senior Director Open & Women's Championships
3. Frederick "Chip" Aki, USBC Open Championships Tournament Director
4. Doug Dukes, Kegel Vice President of Sales
5. Nicholas Hoagland, USBC Pattern Development Team Lead

ii. Pattern Distance and Volume Information / Checks Only (USBC Open Championships Only)

1. Brandy Silva, USBC Tournaments Specialist
2. Tyrone Burks, USBC Open Championships Lane Maintenance Supervisor
3. Sheldon Furr, USBC Open Championships Assistant Lane Maintenance Supervisor
4. Jazmine Elizalde, USBC Open Championships Lane Monitor Asst. Supervisor

iii. Volume Checks @ Bowlers Journal & Team Practice (Quality Assurance Volume Checks)

1. Gary Cunningham, Bowlers Journal and Team Practice Supervisor
2. Eugene Smith, Bowlers Journal and Team Practice Asst. Supervisor

iv. Lane Tape Reading Data Only

1. Samuel Guy, USBC Director of Center Certification
2. Tom Frenzel, USBC Senior Director of Equipment Specifications

2. HOW WILL THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TYPE OF LANE CONDITIONER(S) USED BE PROTECTED?

a. Kegel affixed labels which do not disclose the type of conditioner(s) being used.

3. WILL THE "LANE TOPOGRAPHY GRAPHS" BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL COMPETITORS TO VIEW?

a. Yes. Each lane has been leveled to approved USBC specifications. The "Lane Topography Graph" of each lane will be available on BOWL.com and on-site.

4. WILL THERE BE TRANSPARENCY REGARDING THE LANE MAINTENANCE PROCESS FOR ALL COMPETITORS TO VIEW?

a. Yes. The "Squad Verification Checklist" will be available on BOWL.com and on-site.

5. DO THE SAME LANE MACHINES OIL THE SAME LANES EACH TIME? IS THERE A ROTATION?

- a. The tournament lane maintenance machines are rotated throughout the tournament venue, so that each machine oils a different portion of the venue throughout the day. A log of the usage of each machine is tracked and available as part of the Squad Verification Checklist. USBC reserves the right, depending on squad size, to utilize the same lane machines in the same section of the venue if warranted.

6. ARE THE SAME OIL PATTERNS BEING UTILIZED THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH POINT BOWLING PLAZA AND BOWLING CENTER FOR THE TEAM PRACTICE SESSIONS AND BOWLERS JOURNAL CHAMPIONSHIPS?

- a. The same exact patterns will be utilized throughout both centers for team practice sessions (team event pattern) and for the Bowlers Journal Championships (doubles/singles pattern). As with the Open Championships venue, lane maintenance personnel will not be able to view any pattern data.

7. HOW DO THE PINS GET ROTATED? DO THE SAME PINS STAY IN THE MACHINES FOR THE DURATION OF THE TOURNAMENT?

- a. The USBC Open Championships has a "Pin Rotation Schedule," which manages the usage of the pins throughout the course of the tournament to ensure all competitors are provided similar ages of pins. All tournament pins are new to start and rotated in accordance with the pin rotation schedule.

8. HOW OFTEN IS THE PIN-SPOTTING REVIEWED, AND WHO REVIEWS THE PROCESS?

- a. Pin-spotting is a critical component to a fair and equitable playing field for all competitors. The maintenance team at South Point and USBC Tournament Management collaborate on reviewing pin-spotting as designed in the pin-spotting review schedule.

9. WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR TAKING TAPES FOR EACH SQUAD AND FOR EACH LANE MACHINE? HOW IS THE CONFIDENTIAL TAPE DATA GOING TO BE PROTECTED?

- a. One tape is taken at the beginning of each tournament to create a baseline. Tapes are taken at regular intervals and all tapes are sent to headquarters to be read and archived.

10. WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR CHECKING OIL MACHINE VOLUMES AND KEEPING THE DATA FROM BEING RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC?

- a. Volume checks for each pattern, with each machine, will be performed each morning by one of the individuals as listed above. No other staff, visitors or spectators will be allowed in the room during these volume checks. The results of the volume checks will be notated on the "Daily Inspection Checklist."

11. IS THERE AN AREA AT THE TOURNAMENT VENUE FOR THE LANE MACHINES TO BURN LANES? WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR LANE BURNING THIS YEAR?

Each lane machine will "burn" two (2) lanes prior to lanes being conditioned for tournament competition. Lanes are burned in accordance with the previous squad completing their bowling and is notated on the "Squad Verification Checklist."

12. HOW OFTEN ARE THE LANE MACHINES CLEANED? WHAT MAINTENANCE PROTOCOL IS IN PLACE?

- a. Lane machines are cleaned, inspected and viewed before every squad at the USBC Open Championships. If there is a specific and imminent maintenance issue with a lane machine, it is immediately pulled from the oiling rotation until the problem can be rectified with 100% certainty. The Open Championships lane maintenance staff, Open Championships management and technicians from Kegel work in a collaborative effort to make sure all parties are trained to spot potential issues before they happen.

13. WILL COMPETITORS BE ABLE TO SEE THE DISTANCE OF THE OIL PATTERNS BECAUSE OF THE WALKOUT PROCESS DURING THE TOURNAMENT?

- a. No. Competitors that view or attempt to view the distance are subject to disqualification.

14. WHAT DOCUMENTS CAN I VIEW ONLINE AND ON-SITE? WHERE CAN I FIND THEM PRIOR TO BOWLING?

- a. All of the below documents are available online at BOWL.com:
 - i. Lane Topography Graphs
 - ii. Squad Verification Checklists
- b. All of the below documents will be available after the completion of the tournament
 - i. Oil pattern program sheets including volume, load data, ratio and distance