

**January 2026**

Wishing you a happy New Year from the Rules Team

Last month, we discussed the following topics:

- Roll-offs
- Playoffs
- Weather Cancellations

If you missed last month's Rules Extra, please click [here](#).

This month, we cover these items:

- Adding and Losing Teams
- League Fee Arrearages

If you are no longer a league officer, please forward Rules Extra to newly elected officers if you have their email address so that they will be more knowledgeable in their new role.

Please forward Rules Extra via email to your fellow officers and league members.



### **Adding and losing teams during the season**

One of the commonly asked questions of the Rules Team is: What do we do when a team wants to join or leave the league? A team withdrawing from or joining a league affects the schedule and the prize fund. The schedule must reflect the number of teams in the league.

[Review this document](#) to see how to handle a team joining or withdrawing from the league.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn how to adjust the league's prize fund.

### **Don't let bowlers get behind in fees**

Bowlers make a commitment to the league when they sign up, so what do you do when you have a bowler who has not paid his or her fees? If the bowler is present, ask the bowler to pay the fees prior to bowling. If the bowler does not pay, you may tell the bowler and team captain that the bowler cannot participate until paid.

If all efforts to collect fees fail, the league may file a complaint with USBC following the procedures in [Rule 122b](#). Use the following tools to assist in the complaint filing process:

- [Checklist](#)
- [Sample Notification Letter](#)
- [The Meeting](#)



## DON'T FORGET!

**Don't forget...** [Rule 122b](#) states that bowlers may be in arrears for a maximum of six weeks. However, please do not wait for six weeks to go by before addressing bowlers who owe fees.



## DO YOUR BOWLERS KNOW?

**Do your bowlers know...** what fees must be paid when absent? Please be sure your league members, especially new bowlers to the league, are aware that fees must be paid even when they are absent.



## MYTHBUSTERS

### Mythbusters

Busted, plausible, or confirmed:

Myth #15: When a league requires bowlers to prepay for the last two weeks of bowling, a player who withdraws from a league is credited the prepaid amount for the required two-week withdrawal fees.

Myth # 16: The two-week notice required for withdrawing from a league is based on the calendar.

[Get the answers to these and other bowling myths.](#)