

2025-2026 Playing Rules Book**November 2025**

Last month, we discussed:

- League Presidents' responsibilities
- USBC bonding coverage
- League committees and their roles
- Adding and dropping teams

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

This month, we will cover:

- League finances
- Position rounds
- Prize fund adoption

If you are no longer a league officer, please forward Rules Extra to newly elected officers.

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

**LEAGUE RESOURCES****League finances**

We cannot stress enough how important it is to follow the rules and procedures for league finances. League funds must be deposited within seven (7) days of receipt. The president must do the math monthly to [verify the league account](#) has the correct amount of money on deposit. [Learn more about league finances.](#)

Position rounds

What is a position round? A position round, as defined in [Rule 107](#), is a session in the league schedule where the match pairings are based on the current team standings. In most cases, the team in 1st place will bowl against the team in 2nd place, 3rd place will bowl 4th place and so on down the line.

The most frequent questions submitted to Rules regarding position rounds are as follows:

1 – How do we make the pairings when we have teams with the same records?

Unless the league has adopted another procedure based on pinfall, ties for **determining the pairings** on a position round can be broken using the total scratch pinfall in scratch leagues and total pinfall with handicap in handicap leagues. Remember, this is only to break the ties to determine who will bowl who in a position round...not to break ties of the position round matches.

2 - Can a substitute be used in a position round?

Yes, substitutes may be used unless the league rules state otherwise. USBC rules do not restrict the use of any individual during specific league contests. However, leagues do have the option to adopt special eligibility requirements to participate in positions rounds, such as having a minimum number of games requirement to participate or restrictions on the use of substitutes in these matches.



DON'T FORGET!

Don't forget... about adopting the prize fund. [Rule 106a](#) requires proposals to be presented for adoption by the fifth week of the schedule. League presidents, it is your duty to ensure a prize list is adopted in a timely manner. If this has not been done, please activate a prize fund committee to get at least one proposal submitted to the league for adoption as quickly as possible. Click [how to adopt a prize list](#) for more details.



ATHLETE SAFETY/RVP

Athlete Safety/RVP

The Registered Volunteer Program is designed to create awareness about emotional, physical and sexual abuse through education and prevention policies.

All league officers must be RVP compliant if they are operating an **Adult/Youth** or a **Youth** league. These consist of any league in which a minor (17 years of age or younger) is allowed to participate.

If you conduct a youth league or youth/adult league as a league officer, you must be a Registered Volunteer. You will need to successfully complete SafeSport training and a background screen through NCSI. In addition, you must follow all policies in the Athlete Safety/RVP Handbook when your competition allows bowlers under the age of 18 to participate.

By certifying an event, you are responsible for adherence to USBC's policies and procedures as found in the USBC Playing Rules book, Athlete Safety & RVP Handbook and all other policies and procedures. Failing to do so could result in USBC removing the certification status.

To learn more about the Athlete Safety/RVP Handbook, click [here](#).

To become a Registered Volunteer, click [here](#).



MYTHBUSTERS

Mythbusters

Busted, Plausible, or Confirmed:

Myth #6: The league president must calculate weekly fees to verify the account.

Myth #11: I can put league funds into my personal account.

Myth #17: Substitutes cannot be used for a position match or playoff.

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

Have questions??? Submit questions regarding your league rules or USBC rules in general to us via email at **Rules@bowl.com**. If the question is about your specific league rules, it is very helpful to attach a copy of your rules for our reference.