



1.) **Membership Requirement**

Open to all USBC Youth members. All Youth Open Championships participants must stay in compliance with USBC Rule 400 through the duration of the event. Any participants found in violation of Rule 400 prior to the end of the event may be subject to disqualification. This event is certified by the United States Bowling Congress. **(CERTIFICATION #07034)**

2.) **Age Structure**

The age structure for the tournament will be as follows:

- U10 - Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2012 or later
- U12 - Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2010 thru 7/31/12
- U15 - Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2007 thru 7/31/10
- U18 - Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2004 thru 7/31/07

3.) **Divisions**

a. **Team**

1. Entry divisions for team will be based on the age of the oldest competitor of entry as defined in Rule #2
2. Prizes and scholarships within each division based upon number of entries in the division.

b. **Singles and All-Events**

1. Entry divisions for singles will be based on the age of the competitor as defined in Rule #2.
2. Singles prizes and scholarships will be awarded separately for males and females within each division based upon number of entries in that gender division.

c. **Doubles**

1. Entry divisions for doubles will be based on the age of the oldest competitor as defined in Rule #2.
2. Divisions will be as follows:
 - a. Girls only – Entries with two females will be required to bowl in this division
 - b. Male Only/Mixed
3. Prizes scholarships will be awarded separately for males and females within each division based upon number of entries in that gender division.

4.) Dress Code

Entrants are expected to wear suitable attire. Use good judgment when selecting the appropriate attire.

Examples of acceptable attire

- Collared Shirts and Mock-Turtle Necks
- USBC Youth Jersey
- Dress slacks, Skirts and Jeans in good condition
- Shorts, skirts, and skorts with finished bottom (NO FRAYED HEMLINES) that extend to the knee when worn at the waist 3-3 1/2 inches above the knee.

Examples of prohibited attire include but are not limited to:

- Head gear - (for medical reasons only)
- T-Shirts, tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, spaghetti strap tops, etc.
- Workout attire, bib overalls, jeans that are not neat, clean or in good condition (no torn jeans).

Attire depicting alcohol, tobacco or gambling, an illegal substance or inappropriate language/gestures may not be worn in accordance with Rule 301b.

Bowlers will be required to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by tournament management or designee. Tournament management or designee decision will be final. For questions on appropriate attire, contact the USBC Youth Open tournament office — onsite or at USBC.

PRIDE AWARD

In order to reward teams dressed in a “Team Uniform” USBC has created the “Pride Award.” To qualify for the award, all four members of a team must wear matching shirts and pants of the same color when they bowl their team event.

5.) Eating-Smoking-Drinking

Entrants are NOT permitted to smoke or drink alcoholic beverages while participating in the USBC Youth Open. The center will be a non-smoking venue for all spectators and bowlers. There will be no alcoholic beverages served within the bowling center during the competition. There will be no eating or drinking allowed in the bowlers area during competition.

6.) Equipment

A maximum of five (5) bowling balls per entrant is permitted in the bowling center at one time. Each entrant must have a bowling ball for their individual use in the tournament. Only USBC approved bowling balls will be allowed and MUST have the manufacturer's name, product name, and serial number clearly visible at all times for identification purposes. **The following bowling balls are prohibited for use. 900 Global Altered Reality, 900 Global Wolverine, Roto Grip UFO Alert, Storm Electrify Solid, Storm Phaze 4, Storm Trend 2.** Any scores bowled using a bowling ball that does not meet the above requirements will not count.

Bowling Balls – Bowling balls must meet all USBC specifications as defined in the latest edition of the Equipment Specifications and Certification Manual. It is the player's responsibility to ensure all equipment is eligible for competition. Only balls that are on the USBC approved list and are product registered are allowed in competition. Tournament staff reserves the right to check equipment for compliance at any time.

Damaged Equipment – In the event a player's bowling ball is damaged during tournament play in such a fashion that it will not meet USBC specifications, the player must notify the tournament director and the ball must be immediately taken out of play.

Use of Abrasives on Ball Surface – Altering the surface of a bowling ball by the use of abrasives, cleaners or polish is prohibited during competition, including the warm-up session prior to your squad. In addition, no substance may be placed on the outer surface of the bowling ball. The outer surface of the bowling ball may only be cleaned with a dry towel once the bowler has started competition. Once competition has started, all sanding products must be removed from the settee area (i.e. Abralon, sandpaper, etc.).

Penalty for first offense: Warning and removal of any altered bowling ball

Penalty for second offense: Disqualification

7.) Etiquette

Bowlers are not allowed to use electronic equipment of any kind in the bowler's area during competition unless the equipment is being used to track the bowlers score with a scoring application. This includes but is not limited to cell phones, pagers, video recorders, cameras, radios, palm pilots, headphones, etc. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated on the lanes or inside the bowling center. Individuals are subject to removal for engaging in improper tactics or conduct including, but not limited to, physical and verbal abuse toward other persons.

8a.) Entries received before July 11, 2023

Entry fee for all divisions is \$160-per 4-person team, \$160-per doubles pair (includes singles). All-events fee (optional) is \$5.00 per bowler. Total cost of team, doubles, singles, and all-events for a 4-person entry: \$500.00. Full entry fee for each event must be paid at time of registration.

Entry fee breakdown for singles, doubles, team event: \$23.75 scholarship fee \$16.25 expense fee. Scholarship fees will be returned 100%. All-events fee of \$5.00 will be returned 100% in scholarships. **Bowlers MUST enter both the Doubles AND the Singles events.** *All-events category must be entered and be paid before the first ball of competition has been thrown by the bowler.*

Cancellations will not be accepted after July 1, 2023. All cancellations prior to July 1 will be subject to a \$70 fee. Cancellations after July 1 will forfeit all fees paid. All bowler information is due when full payment is submitted to USBC. **Online entries will close July 11, 2023.** On-site entries will be accepted as space permits.

8b.) Entries received on or after July 11, 2023

Entry fee for all divisions is \$180-per 4-person team, \$180-per doubles pair (includes singles). All-events fee (optional) is \$5.00 per bowler. Total cost of team, doubles, singles, and all-events for a 4-person entry: \$560.00. Entry fee breakdown for singles, doubles, team event: \$28.75 scholarship fee \$16.25 expense fee. Scholarship fees will be returned 100%. All-events fee of \$5.00 will be returned 100% in scholarships. **Bowlers MUST enter both the Doubles AND the Singles events.** *All-events category must be entered and be paid before the first ball of competition has been thrown by the bowler.*

9.) Format

The tournament shall consist of a singles, doubles, and 4-person team event in four divisions. Three games will be bowled in each event. There will also be an all-events category in each of the four divisions. ***This is a SCRATCH tournament and only actual scores are used.*** Bowlers usually will be scheduled to bowl three games in the team event on one day and three games for doubles and three games for singles on another day. **A bowler entering doubles must also enter singles.** Bowlers will be allowed to bowl all entered events the same day if space permits.

Bowlers cannot be listed on an original entry form more than once for any event.

- a.) Entrants may participate in each event once.
- b.) Bowlers may enter the team event without bowling singles and doubles.
- c.) Bowlers may enter singles and doubles without bowling the team event.
- d.) Scores bowled by an ineligible player will be disqualified.

10.) Optional Events

HANDICAP PRIZE LIST

The tournament will offer an OPTIONAL Handicap prize list. Divisions will remain the same as the SCRATCH divisions. The entry fee will be as follows:

- Team Event - \$40.00 per team (100% prize fund).
- Doubles Event - \$20.00 per team (100% prize fund)
- Singles Event - \$10.00 per player (100% prize fund)
- All-Events - \$5.00 per player (100% prize fund)

Entrants to the OPTIONAL Handicap prizes MUST supply the following average information:

- a. Highest 2022-23 average (Minimum 12 games)
- b. All 2022-23 Sport averages (Minimum 12 games)
Sport averages will be adjusted in accordance with the 2022-23 Sport Average Adjustment Scale.

A player without an acceptable average under this rule will be assigned an average of 220.

Failure to submit complete average information will make the entry subject to disqualification.

Tournament Management reserves the right to adjust a players' average prior to participating in the bowling.com Youth Open in accordance with Rule 319c.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO FILL OUT AND SUBMIT AN AVERAGE VERIFICATION FORM. THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT BY THE LOCAL ASSOCIATION OR LEAGUE SECRETARY AND POSTMARKED PRIOR TO AUGUST 15, 2023

The handicap used for this OPTIONAL prize list will be as follows:

Team - 100% of 880

Doubles – 100% of 440

Singles & All-Events – 100% of 220.

11.) Lane Courtesy

One lane courtesy is recognized and will be enforced.

12.) Pacers

Pacers shall not be permitted in the tournament.

13.) Protests, Appeals and Tournament Authority

Any protest or appeal concerning scoring must be made in writing stating briefly the grounds of the protest or appeal and submitted to the USBC tournament office no later than 72 hours after the game has been played.

14.) Refund and Cancellation Policy

No team or individual shall be entitled to a full refund after the entry form and fees have been received and definite dates assigned unless a replacement is requested in writing and the vacated space is filled (See rule #8a for cancellation fee.)

15.) Scholarships and Awards

Scholarship awards will be distributed: Singles, doubles, team: 1:5 ratio. All-events 1:6 ratio. Scholarships in the singles, doubles and team divisions will be based on total score- no separate divisions for gender. All-Events scholarships will be awarded based on gender within each age division.

Scholarships will be distributed within 30 days after the conclusion of the tournament. All scholarships will be held in SMART (#12526). All results will be posted on bowl.com. In the event of a tie in any event, scholarships will be equally divided. In the event of a tie for first place, co-champions will be declared.

All first place champions (highest actual total pins bowled) in each division will receive an award.

16.) Special Needs Bowlers

Bowlers who required special assistance must indicate it on the entry form so that special scheduling consideration can be arranged.

17.) Substitutes

Substitutes will be allowed up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the squad. A substitute's age may change the division. The substitute will take the place of the original entrant in the line-up and will be entitled to all scholarship awards. A substitute shall be permitted if one is available, for any reason after a game has started only in the team and doubles event. If a substitute is not found, only the actual score of the frames bowled shall count. **A bowler can only bowl each event one time.**

18.) Tardy Bowlers

Teams and/or individual(s) arriving late shall begin play and the scores shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. Entrant will receive a zero for all frames missed.

19.) Teams Bowling Together

Teams wishing to bowl together must mark the entry form appropriately and submit them together in one envelope. All other teams are randomly scheduled. USBC does not guarantee doubles/singles events will be scheduled on the same lanes as their teammates. Doubles and singles times are scheduled on a first come basis.

20.) Team Captain

Each team shall designate an adult who will be the point of contact for the team. Each team will also designate a captain who will be responsible to ensure that all team members are advised of the rules of the event.

Tournament Location

Host Center:

Expo Bowl

5261 Elmwood Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 46203

Phone 317-787-3448

Note: times listed are "BOWLING FOR SCORE" times

Check-in: 60 minutes prior to squad times

Walk-in entries close 30 minutes prior to scheduled squad times, unless otherwise determined by tournament management.

Internet Entries: Entries will be accepted via bowl.com (under the youth tab, then Youth Open link) until July 11, 2023 only.

Other Rules

The USBC Playing Rules will be enforced. Tournament games cannot be re-bowled, except as authorized by the tournament management when scores are irretrievably lost in the scoring process. **Only competitors and tournament officials shall be allowed in the settee area during practice and competition.** Tournament management has the authority to make decisions regarding anything not covered by these rules.

Athletes/Parents/Guardians are responsible for checking with a compliance officer and/or academic counselor at the athlete's school to ensure compliance with high school and collegiate eligibility rules. Athletes under the age of 18 are under the governance of their parent/guardian for the duration of the event. All athletes shall abide by the rules and conditions for the 2023 bowling.com Youth Open. Athletes/parents/Guardians release the sponsoring organizations, and each of them, and their respective officers, members,

employees, agents, successors and assigns, from any and all liability for any injury to person or damage to or loss of property which an athlete may sustain, or which a parent/guardian may sustain as a result thereof or directly, during or as result of an athlete's participation in the 2023 bowling.com Youth Open, including any activities incidental thereto and his/her travel to and from the place at which the 2023 bowling.com Youth Open is conducted.

Consent is given by the athlete and/or parent/guardian to and authorize the sponsoring organizations, and each of them, and their respective officers, members, employees, agents, successors and assigns, and anyone authorized by them to photograph, otherwise record or reproduce, publish and use athlete's name, voice, likeness, and biography and his/her participation and activities in connection with the 2023 bowling.com Youth Open, alone or with others, hereby releasing and waiving all rights, title or interest, which the athlete or parent/guardian have or may have hereafter with respect there to and any compensation or reimbursement to the athlete or parent/guardian on account thereof. Athletes do not participate in the 2023 bowling.com Youth Open for reimbursement, compensation, or professional gain but solely to have the opportunity to win the National Championships and the appropriate prize or prizes involved. Any personal appearances or speaking engagements by the athlete will be done at no charge to the sponsoring organizations.

TERMINATION/RELEASE CLAUSE

To the Executive Director of the United States Bowling Congress: I and my guardian hereby make application to participate in this Youth Open Championships event listed and tender the entry fees required. I warrant that I am a USBC Youth member. I and my guardian agree to abide by all tournament playing rules and regulations prescribed by USBC, including all provisions set forth on this form. I and my guardian specifically agree for myself and any replacement chosen by me or for me that if I am not eligible for participation and/or cannot bowl in the event, then my prize, bowling and expense fees shall be forfeited, and all sums tendered by me as prize, bowling and expense fee may be retained by USBC as liquidated damages. The entrant whose name appears hereon or my authorized replacement hereby agrees that the USBC, its officers and agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning entry fees, less expenses, if and when that entrant shall be prevented from bowling any event in the tournament through premature termination of the tournament, which may be brought about by war, national emergency or emergencies or causes relating thereto resulting therefrom, fires, labor difficulties, terrorism or threats of terrorism or other causes beyond the control of USBC. I further agree that USBC may use my name and likenesses (including video) for promotional purposes at no cost to me and with no fees being paid to me.

The entrants whose names appears on this application and/or authorized replacements hereby agrees that the USBC, and its officers and agents, shall not be liable for any injury resulting from participation in bowling in the 2023 bowling.com Youth Open, absent willful or gross negligence on the part of USBC.