

## **2026 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS RULE #21**

**Rule #21: PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS, PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLIST, PWBA TOUR I & II, COLLEGIATE BOWLERS AND MEMBERS OF AN ADULT NATIONAL TEAM**  
*Open Championships Rules*

- A. For the purpose of participation in the Open Championships, **PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS [21-A]** are defined as: Any bowler, under the age of 60, having applied for membership or held membership in the Professional Bowlers Association during the following time frames:
- 1) Calendar year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2025) preceding the event; and or
  - 2) Up through their first day of competition at the Open Championships in 2026.
- B. For the purpose of participation in the Open Championships, **PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLISTS [21-B]** are defined as: Any bowler, under the age of 60, who has won any of the following:
- 1) A PBA national tour title regardless of professional status at the time of the win.
  - 2) A USBC Masters or U.S. Open title.
- C. For the purpose of participation in the Open Championships, **PWBA TOUR I [21-C]** are defined as: Any bowler, under the age of 60, who meets any of the following criteria:
- 1) Has won a PWBA national title regardless of professional status at the time of winning, within the past 10 years (2016-2026); and or up through their first day of competition at the Open Championships in 2026; or
  - 2) Has won a PWBA major title regardless of professional status at the time of winning, within the past 20 years (2006-2026); or
  - 3) Has finished in the Top 30 on the PWBA National Tour points list at the conclusion of the 2025 season.
- D. For the purpose of participation in the Open Championships, **PWBA TOUR II [21-D]** are defined as: Any bowler, under the age of 60, who has finished 31st – 50th on the PWBA National Tour points list at the conclusion of the 2025 season.
- E. For the purpose of participation in the Open Championships, **COLLEGIATE BOWLERS [21-E]** are defined as: Any bowler currently

holding a collegiate bowling membership or student-athlete affiliated with any college bowling program (NCAA, NJCAA, NAIA, Club, etc.) during the following time frames:

- 1) The 2025-2026 collegiate bowling season; and or
- 2) Calendar year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2025) preceding the event; and or
- 3) Up through their first day of competition at the Open Championships in 2026.

- F. For the purpose of participation in the Open Championships, members of an **ADULT NATIONAL TEAM [21-F]** are defined as: Any current or past member of Team USA, or any other International Federation's **ADULT NATIONAL TEAM**, under the age of 60, who was on the team within the past 10 years (2016 – 2026).

The following designations do NOT fall under this rule:

- 1) Para Team USA; and
- 2) Members of Junior Team USA; and or
- 3) Any age-restricted classifications commonly known as "Juniors," "Masters," "Seniors," "Veterans" or other similarly designated age-restricted competitions.

- E. **PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS, PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLISTS, PWBA TOUR I & II, COLLEGIATE BOWLERS AND ADULT NATIONAL TEAM MEMBERS** (as defined above) will be eligible to compete ONLY in the REGULAR DIVISION subject to the following guidelines:

### 1) TEAM EVENT

- a. A team may only have one **PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLIST [21-B]** or **PWBA TOUR I [21-C]** player in its lineup. If a team has a bowler who meets the above criteria, the team may NOT also have a bowler who meets the criteria of a:
  - i. PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS [21-A]
  - ii. PWBA TOUR II [21-D]
  - iii. COLLEGIATE BOWLER [21-E]
  - iv. ADULT NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER [21-F]
- b. A team may be comprised of any combination of two (2), but no more than two, players defined who meet the criteria of a:
  - i. PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS [21-A]
  - ii. PWBA TOUR II [21-D]
  - iii. COLLEGIATE BOWLER [21-E]
  - iv. ADULT NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER [21-F]

- c. A team may be comprised of up to five (5) bowlers who meet the criteria of a **COLLEGIATE BOWLER** as defined in item [21-E], provided there are NO bowlers on the team who meet the criteria of a:
  - i. PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS [21-A]
  - ii. PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLIST [21-B]
  - iii. PWBA TOUR I [21-C]
  - iv. PWBA TOUR II [21-D]
  - v. ADULT NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER [21-F]

## 2) DOUBLES

- a. There may not be more than ONE bowler per doubles team who meet the criteria of a:
  - i. PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS [21-A]
  - ii. PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLIST [21-B]
  - iii. PWBA TOUR I [21-C]
  - iv. PWBA TOUR II [21-D]
  - v. COLLEGIATE BOWLER [21-E]
  - vi. ADULT NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER [21-F]
  
- b. A doubles team may be comprised of two (2) bowlers who meet the criteria of a **COLLEGIATE BOWLER** as defined in item [21-E].

## 3) SINGLES and ALL-EVENTS

- a. Each player is eligible to enter singles and all-events ONLY in the Regular Division who meet the criteria of a:
  - i. PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS [21-A]
  - ii. PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLIST [21-B]
  - iii. PWBA TOUR I [21-C]
  - iv. PWBA TOUR II [21-D]
  - v. COLLEGIATE BOWLER [21-E]
  - vi. ADULT NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER [21-F]

## 4) BRACKETS

- a. Each player is eligible for daily and yearlong bracket products ONLY in the Regular Division, regardless of whether they fit the average criteria for another division who meet the criteria of a:
  - i. PBA PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS [21-A]
  - ii. PBA NATIONAL TOUR TITLIST [21-B]
  - iii. PWBA TOUR I [21-C]
  - iv. PWBA TOUR II [21-D]
  - v. COLLEGIATE BOWLER [21-E]

vi. ADULT NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER [21-F]

- b. Each player also is eligible for any age-based products for which they qualify.