

December 2025

[2025-2026 Playing Rules Book](#)

Happy Holidays from the Rules Team!

Last month, we discussed the following topics:

- League finances
- Position rounds
- Adopting your prize lists

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

This month, we will cover these issues:

- Roll-offs
- Playoffs
- Weather cancellations

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.



LEAGUE RESOURCES

Roll-offs (also known as a tiebreaker)

Many leagues use the term roll-off for the championship playoffs when, in fact, a roll-off is a tiebreaker. A roll-off, according to [Rule 118](#), must be conducted when there is a tie for first place at the end of a segment or the season (unless co-champions are declared). Scores from a roll-off must be added into a bowler's average record.

Playoffs (also known as the championship)

Most playoffs are connected to [split seasons](#). A split season is when a league divides the standings into segments with the standings starting over once the previous segment is completed. This is a great way for a league to add interest and to give teams the opportunity to move up in the standings and compete in the championship playoffs.

Dealing with weather issues

It is the season for weather-related problems to start happening. The CAQ's attached to [Rule 117b](#) and [Rule 117d](#) provide guidance to leagues when faced with weather-related issues.



DON'T FORGET!

Don't forget... to forward any new bowler membership application cards and any applicable fees to the local association no later than 30 days after receipt.



DO YOUR BOWLERS KNOW?

Do your bowlers know... the league procedure for canceling for inclement weather? This is the time to reinforce the league procedures for doing so.



ATHLETE SAFETY/RVP

SafeSport Training Update

The U.S. Center for SafeSport continues to play an important role by offering additional training for parents and youth.

Parent Training Resources

[Parent Guide to Misconduct in Sports](#)

Parents are an important part of the solution as we all work together to prevent abuse in sports. Our Parent Guide to Misconduct in Sports is designed for parents of athletes of all ages. This FREE online training course explains the issues of misconduct in sports and helps parents ensure their children have positive and safe sports experiences.

Youth Athlete Resources

The U.S. Center for SafeSport now has two free online courses for children of varied ages and their parents or caregivers. These courses introduce minor athletes to the importance of positive, welcoming environments in which bullying and abuse are not tolerated. The courses also let course takers know where to report abuse or misconduct if it occurs.

For all members taking SafeSport training, it is imperative to go through BOWL.com's Athlete Safety Portal. Visit BOWL.com, under the USBC heading, and click on Athlete Portal in the drop down. Enter your Community Login, and you will be taken to your exclusive Athlete Safety page from which you will access SafeSport training and your NCSI background screening.

As a reminder, in accordance with [Rule 100b, Items 2 and 3](#), all league officers of Youth or Adult/Youth leagues must be compliant with the annual SafeSport training requirement and have a current background screening (done every two years).

[Bowlers 18 or older who are participating in a Youth or Adult/Youth League](#) must be compliant with the annual SafeSport training requirements.



Mythbusters

Busted, plausible, or confirmed:

MYTH #33: Ties in standings can be broken with total pins.

MYTH #41: The team winning the most segments in a split-season league is the league champion.

MYTH #48: A playoff and a roll-off are the same thing.

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

Want to be part of Mythbusters? Send your bowling myths to **Rules@bowl.com**.