

August 2026

Last month, our e-blasts covered:

- League officer duties
- League finances
- Other important information to complete your duties as an officer

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

This month, we will cover:

- USBC membership applications
- 2026-2027 Playing Rules and Commonly Asked Questions
- Adult/Youth league requirements
- Youth leagues
- Deadline for proposed changes to USBC rules

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

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



2026-2027 USBC Membership Applications

USBC thanks you for your continued efforts in collecting accurate and complete information from your league bowlers on their USBC membership applications. Accurate member information improves the fulfillment of membership cards and member benefits to your league bowlers. A reminder that date of birth is required for all members, and ensuring you have good emails from your bowlers ensures they receive USBC news this season!

We are experiencing a significant increase in the number of USBC members who are choosing to purchase or renew USBC memberships online at BOWL.com. Remember, you also have the ability to join or renew your USBC membership online! Click [here](#) to go to the online membership page.

When an individual purchases their membership online, in accordance with Rule 101, they must still provide proof of payment. Proof of payment can be done by the bowler displaying their membership verification through the BOWL.com app.

2026-2027 Playing Rules and Commonly Asked Questions

The 2026-27 USBC Rulebook is now posted and can be accessed [here](#). The rulebook is available online and through the BOWL.com app. The online USBC Rulebook features a Table of

Contents with direct links to rules and the inclusion of links throughout the rulebook that will provide quick access to referenced rules and CAQ's.

Change to Equipment Specifications regarding Bowling Ball Identification Markings

The underlined change below takes effect on **Jan. 1, 2027**:

Identification. Each ball must have the original brand name/logo, original ball name and some form of serial number. (the serial number may be re-engraved).

Effective Jan. 1, 2027, ball markings required for identification purposes may not be re-engraved. Balls with re-engraved or unidentifiable serial numbers are not allowed in certified competitions.



LEAGUE RESOURCES

Adult/Youth Leagues

Adult leagues allowing USBC Youth members 18 or younger to participate must be certified as an adult/youth league and must comply with USBC Rule 400. Also, those 18 or older must complete U.S. Center for SafeSport training. [All](#) officers must be Registered Volunteers (SafeSport trained and background screening through NCSI). See [Rule 100b](#) for more.

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

Youth Leagues

Promote your scholarship leagues. If you have unassigned funds in your SMART account, use them to promote bowling. Inform the parents/youth that you are adding additional scholarship funds to the prize fund and/or have the youth/parents help promote your leagues. For example: Everyone receives prizes in the form of scholarships, and for each new bowler you bring in, you both receive scholarship funds. This is a great way to have others promote your leagues.

If you would like to provide scholarships, get started by submitting this [form](#) to SMART@bowl.com.

When certifying your league, don't forget to include your SMART account number on the league application.

Deadline for proposals for changes to USBC rules is fast approaching

Proposals for changes to USBC rules are due by Sept. 1, 2026. If you have a rule change you would like to be considered by the USBC delegates, send your proposal to Rules@bowl.com by Sept. 1, 2026.



MYTHS MYTHBUSTERS

Busted, Plausible, or Confirmed:

Myth #30: A team or individual can pre-bowl for the first league session.

Myth #34: Once adopted, all league rules are final.

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

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