



V I R T U A L  
**CONVENTION**  
2021

**2021 Legislative Review**

[BOWL.com/RULES](http://BOWL.com/RULES)

## USBC Annual Meeting Procedures

### 1. Delegates

Delegates must register by April 21, 2021 in order to be considered a registered delegate. Upon registering, each delegate will be credentialed to allow their vote to be counted during the election and legislative session. Only those delegates registered on or before April 21, 2021 will be allowed to vote.

Local association delegates are to be submitted to USBC HQ through WinLABS and state association delegates are submitted to USBC HQ by a [state report form](#).

Notification to Athlete Delegates and Hall of Fame Members of their delegate eligibility will go out in early February 2021 with information on registration needs. An email to [Convention@bowl.com](mailto:Convention@bowl.com) by April 21 will be required.

Upon the closing of delegate registration on April 21, the list of delegates with email addresses will be sent to the company handling the voting process. Delegates will be required to have an email address and utilize the software provided to vote on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

### 2. Debate

- a. Any USBC member has the right to debate a motion, only registered delegates may make a motion.
- b. Any USBC member may submit an audio or video recording of up to two minutes prior to April 15, 2021 discussing the approval or rejection of any amendment to USBC at [Convention@bowl.com](mailto:Convention@bowl.com) for consideration.
  - i. At the beginning of the recording, each member must state his/her name and association.
  - ii. The proposer of an amendment who submits an audio or video will have their recording played after the proposal is placed on the floor for discussion.
  - iii. USBC does not guarantee submissions of a recording by any other member will be played during the debate of the legislation. Any recording that does not debate the proposed legislation will not be played.

### 3. Amendments to Amendments

To assist delegates who feel any of the proposed amendments are in need of change, and to conserve the time on the meeting floor, the following procedure will be followed:

- a. Any suggested change must be submitted in writing to USBC at [Convention@bowl.com](mailto:Convention@bowl.com) on or before March 15, 2021.
- b. The suggested change will be submitted to the Legislative Committee chair for review.
- c. The suggested change will be submitted to the registered delegates before April 1 for review.

- d. After presentation of the original proposal, the suggested change will be presented to the delegates for a vote. A majority vote is needed to accept the change.
  - i. If a majority vote is received, the proposed changed will be the amendment of record.
  - ii. If a majority vote is not received, the original proposal will be the amendment of record.
- e. Any suggested change received after March 15, 2021 will be returned to the proposer and not submitted to the delegates for consideration.
- f. No changes to amendments will be allowed during the legislative session.

\* Note: USBC Staff will be holding educational video conferences in February and April to assist delegates with any questions surrounding the legislation and the process.

#### 4. Method of Voting

All votes of the voting members shall be cast by electronic ballot which shall be the sole method for determining votes unless the President, or in his/her absence the vice president, determines circumstances require a different method.

#### 5. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the meeting in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the USBC Bylaws and these rules.

#### 6. Adoption and Suspension of Rules

- a. These rules shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote.
- b. These rules may be suspended by a two-thirds vote.

# 2021 INDEX OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

## League Rules

---

### Rules Proposal No. LR 1.....Page 01

**USBC Playing Rules**  
**Chapter 4, League Rules**  
**Rule 100g, Handicap**

Mandates adult leagues use handicap based on 100 percent of 300.

**Proposer:** Jerry F. Paige, Sr.  
Temple Hills, MD

### Rules Proposal No. LR 3.....Page 05

**USBC Playing Rules**  
**Chapter 4, League Rules**  
**Rule 106c, Interrupted Game/Series**

Allows a league officer to authorize practice.

**Proposer:** Tony Eades  
Warsaw, MO

### Rules Proposal No. LR 5.....Page 08

**USBC Playing Rules**  
**Chapter 4, League Rules**  
**Rule 122, Meetings**

Requires rule changes to be handled the prior season and any changes for the new season requires the written unanimous consent of all team captains, with exception to “league cap” and “average handicap.”

**Proposer:** Jerry F. Paige, Sr.  
Temple Hills, MD

### Rules Proposal No. LR 2..... Page 03

**USBC Playing Rules**  
**Chapter 4, League Rules**  
**Rule 100g, Handicap**

1. Defaults handicap to 100 percent of 300 if no league rule.
2. Mandates negative handicap if not using 100 percent of 300.

**Proposer:** Jerry F. Paige, Sr.  
Temple Hills, MD

### Rules Proposal No. LR 4..... Page 06

**USBC Playing Rules**  
**Chapter 4, League Rules**  
**Rule 113a, Definitions**

Allows leagues to adopt a rule to allow total pin fall to break ties.

**Proposer:** Jeff Hagen  
Portland, OR

## Bylaws

---

### Bylaws Proposal No. B 1.....Page 11

**USBC National Bylaws**  
**Article IV, Board of Directors**  
**Section E. Authority and Duties**

Provides for the board to make emergency decisions, in extreme situations, to temporarily suspend bylaws and rules.

**Proposer:** Executive Advisory Committee



# RULES PROPOSAL NO. LR 1

Delegate Action	Vote Count	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reject	_____	_____

## PRESENT RULE...

### USBC Playing Rules Chapter 4, League Rules Rule 100g, Handicap

**Handicap** - A handicap league is one in which handicap is added to a bowler's score to place bowlers and teams with varying degrees of skill on as equitable a basis as possible for scheduled competition. The following applies to handicap leagues:

1. The percentage shall be 100 percent, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
2. When the rules are adopted, each handicap league shall decide whether the individual or team method of handicapping will be used.
3. Handicap shall be figured according to the following:
  - a. **Adult leagues:** From the average of each bowler as provided by league rule.
  - b. **Youth leagues:** Unless otherwise provided by league rule, for the first session handicap shall be figured after the current average has been established. Thereafter, handicap will be figured on the current average.
4. Handicap shall not be limited, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
5. A handicap game or series shall not be capped unless otherwise provided by league rule. If a league adopts such a rule, a game or series cannot be capped below the highest possible scratch score.
6. The combined current average of each of the players bowling on a team shall be the team average.
7. When figuring handicap or averages, fractions are to be dropped. (Download a handicap chart on BOWL.com.)

## PROPOSAL...

Move item 1 to item 3b.

Add "The percentage shall be 100 percent of the difference between 300 and" at the beginning of item 3a.

Add "Handicap shall not be limited." to item 3a.

Add "**Closed Leagues:**" in front of item 4.

**If adopted**, items 2 - 7 will be renumbered.

**If adopted**, Rule 100g will read:

**Handicap** - A handicap league is one in which handicap is added to a bowler's score to place bowlers and teams with varying degrees of skill on as equitable a basis as possible for scheduled competition. The following applies to handicap leagues:

1. When the rules are adopted, each handicap league shall decide whether the individual or team method of handicapping will be used.
2. Handicap shall be figured according to the following:
  - a. **Adult leagues:** The percentage shall be 100 percent of the difference between 300 and from the average of each bowler as provided by league rule. Handicap shall not be limited.
  - b. **Youth leagues:** Unless otherwise provided by league rule, for the first session handicap shall be figured after the current average has been established. Thereafter, handicap will be figured on the current average. The percentage shall be 100 percent.
3. **Closed Leagues:** Handicap shall not be limited, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
4. A handicap game or series shall not be capped unless otherwise provided by league rule. If a league adopts such a rule, a game or series cannot be capped below the highest possible scratch score.
5. The combined current average of each of the players bowling on a team shall be the team average.
6. When figuring handicap or averages, fractions are to be dropped. (Download a handicap chart on BOWL.com.)

## **REASON FOR PROPOSAL....**

To upgrade the handicap system into the 21st century. We must achieve a new starting point between average and handicap whereas bowlers competing at the leagues level to create the balance each sports desire and attempts to achieve.

For the Future of the Sport,

In the beginning based on the environment, the average league bowler(s) average would not exceed 210 which allowed handicap to be based on 200 (Currently known as "Par Bowling") and if your average reached 199 or 200 you would receive zero pins handicap. For the most part in the 19th and 20th century this concept pretty much was the norm and fell within an acceptable range (Grading on a curve) but now we are in the 21st century and this concept of giving zero pins for averages above league based on this premise no longer works nor is it feasible which now is creating an uneven playing field.

It is no longer in the bowler's best interest to continue to have questionable handicap system charts that favors one group over the others. That decision should no longer be the league's responsibility unless USBC wants to see decline in membership continue to grow as bowlers are leaving the sport. We are in the 21st century and it's time to stop moving the finish line if we want to be viewed as a legitimate sport.

"The new social contract is different: ... only people who have the knowledge and skills to negotiate constant change and reinvent themselves for new situations will succeed."

200 AVERAGE BASE - VS - 300 AVERAGE BASE - VS - 20TH CENTURY - VS - 21ST CENTURY

Which one are we? The question we need to ask: Is "Par Bowling" still the cornerstone for bowling? Par Bowling implies any score above 200 is a plus (+) number and below 200 is a negative (-) number. So common sense implies to maintain the balance of 200 (Par Bowling) the mathematic teaches us when a number (220) is greater than the base (200), this makes the result a negative number not zero. If this process of using negative numbers in handicap bowling leagues is used then everybody starts off even, maintaining the balance of 200. Too many complaints and letters from members has already shown us, failure to maintain an "even playing field" will create domination in a negative way, which seems to continue to increasing year after year until lower average bowlers which make up 80 percent of the non-scratch bowlers, decides to leave instead of staying.

Because leagues are using different ways of computing handicap that the time has come to mandate an equal balance system to assure equal starting position at the league level for the best interest of all and for the future of the sport. There have been too many memos and league issues on this subject when it comes to handicapping averages. Each league has computed handicap so many different ways that the time has come (21st century) to create a uniform system. Plus this will make it easier to compute without a chart or calculator to help figure it out.

Recent USBC changes (not looking to reduce/change scoring ability) via bowling balls only scratches the surface. Since the current environment scores do not reflect 1940-1999 scores before bowling balls were changed from rubber/plastic dictates/implies this old handicap system has no merits in our current environment with the exception of "Max Handicap" or "Par Bowling" if used correctly with minus pins.

Presented by: Jerry F. Paige Sr.  
Temple Hills, MD

**Recommended for rejection by the USBC Board of Directors**

## **REASON FOR REJECTION....**

This change is taking the leagues authority away and mandating all leagues use handicap based of 100 percent of the bowler's average and 300. Determining the handicap percentage and base for handicap needs to remain with the league because there is no one-size-fits-all figure that should be dictated by a national rule.

## RULES PROPOSAL NO. LR 2

Delegate Action	Vote Count	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reject	_____	_____

### PRESENT RULE...

#### USBC Playing Rules Chapter 4, League Rules Rule 100g, Handicap

**Handicap** - A handicap league is one in which handicap is added to a bowler's score to place bowlers and teams with varying degrees of skill on as equitable a basis as possible for scheduled competition. The following applies to handicap leagues:

1. The percentage shall be 100 percent, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
2. When the rules are adopted, each handicap league shall decide whether the individual or team method of handicapping will be used.
3. Handicap shall be figured according to the following:
  - a. **Adult leagues:** From the average of each bowler as provided by league rule.
  - b. **Youth leagues:** Unless otherwise provided by league rule, for the first session handicap shall be figured after the current average has been established. Thereafter, handicap will be figured on the current average.
4. Handicap shall not be limited, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
5. A handicap game or series shall not be capped unless otherwise provided by league rule. If a league adopts such a rule, a game or series cannot be capped below the highest possible scratch score.
6. The combined current average of each of the players bowling on a team shall be the team average.
7. When figuring handicap or averages, fractions are to be dropped. (Download a handicap chart on BOWL.com.)

### PROPOSAL...

Add "of 300." between "percent" and "unless" in item 1.

Add "When average exceeds base, negative pins will be provided." as a second sentence to item 3a.

Add "**Closed Leagues:**" in front of item 4

**If adopted**, Rule 100g will read:

**Handicap** - A handicap league is one in which handicap is added to a bowler's score to place bowlers and teams with varying degrees of skill on as equitable a basis as possible for scheduled competition. The following applies to handicap leagues:

1. The percentage shall be 100 percent of 300, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
2. When the rules are adopted, each handicap league shall decide whether the individual or team method of handicapping will be used.
3. Handicap shall be figured according to the following:
  - a. **Adult leagues:** From the average of each bowler as provided by league rule. When average exceeds base, negative pins will be provided.
  - b. **Youth leagues:** Unless otherwise provided by league rule, for the first session handicap shall be figured after the current average has been established. Thereafter, handicap will be figured on the current average.
4. **Closed Leagues:** Handicap shall not be limited, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
5. A handicap game or series shall not be capped unless otherwise provided by league rule. If a league adopts such a rule, a game or series cannot be capped below the highest possible scratch score.
6. The combined current average of each of the players bowling on a team shall be the team average.
7. When figuring handicap or averages, fractions are to be dropped. (Download a handicap chart on BOWL.com.)

## **REASON FOR PROPOSAL....**

To upgrade the handicap system into the 21st century. We must achieve a new starting point between average and handicap whereas bowlers competing at the leagues level to create the balance each sports desire and attempts to achieve.

For the Future of the Sport,

In the beginning based on the environment, the average league bowler(s) average would not exceed 210 which allowed handicap to be based on 200 (Currently known as "Par Bowling") and if your average reached 199 or 200 you would receive zero pins handicap. For the most part in the 19th and 20th century this concept pretty much was the norm and fell within an acceptable range (Grading on a curve) but now we are in the 21st century and this concept of giving zero pins for averages above league based on this premise no longer works nor is it feasible which now is creating an uneven playing field.

It is no longer in the bowler's best interest to continue to have questionable handicap system charts that favors one group over the others. That decision should no longer be the league's responsibility unless USBC wants to see decline in membership continue to grow as bowlers are leaving the sport. We are in the 21st century and it's time to stop moving the finish line if we want to be viewed as a legitimate sport.

"The new social contract is different: ... only people who have the knowledge and skills to negotiate constant change and reinvent themselves for new situations will succeed."

200 AVERAGE BASE - VS - 300 AVERAGE BASE - VS - 20TH CENTURY - VS - 21ST CENTURY

Which one are we? The question we need to ask: Is "Par Bowling" still the cornerstone for bowling? Par Bowling implies any score above 200 is a plus (+) number and below 200 is a negative (-) number. So common sense implies to maintain the balance of 200 (Par Bowling) the mathematic teaches us when a number (220) is greater than the base (200), this makes the result a negative number not zero. If this process of using negative numbers in handicap bowling leagues is used then everybody starts off even, maintaining the balance of 200. Too many complaints and letters from members has already shown us, failure to maintain an "even playing field" will create domination in a negative way, which seems to continue to increasing year after year until lower average bowlers which make up 80 percent of the non-scratch bowlers, decides to leave instead of staying.

Because leagues are using different ways of computing handicap that the time has come to mandate an equal balance system to assure equal starting position at the league level for the best interest of all and for the future of the sport. There have been too many memos and league issues on this subject when it comes to handicapping averages. Each league has computed handicap so many different ways that the time has come (21st century) to create a uniform system. Plus this will make it easier to compute without a chart or calculator to help figure it out.

Recent USBC changes (not looking to reduce/change scoring ability) via bowling balls only scratches the surface. Since the current environment scores do not reflect 1940-1999 scores before bowling balls were changed from rubber/plastic dictates/implies this old handicap system has no merits in our current environment with the exception of "Max Handicap" or "Par Bowling" if used correctly with minus pins.

Presented by: Jerry F. Paige Sr.  
Temple Hills, MD

**Recommended for rejection by the USBC Board of Directors**

## **REASON FOR REJECTION....**

When leagues adopt rules, they determine the percentage of handicap and what base is best for their league. The percentage and base would only apply to new leagues as established leagues already have this in their rules. Those leagues which do not adopt negative handicap have decided it is in their best interest to not have a negative handicap rule for their competition. This is another rule that should remain within the league.

# RULES PROPOSAL NO. LR 3

Delegate Action	Vote Count	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reject	_____	_____

## PRESENT RULE...

**USBC Playing Rules**  
**Chapter 4, League Rules**  
**Rule 106c, Interrupted Game/Series**

If equipment failure on a pair of lanes would delay the progress of a series, league officers can:

1. Authorize the game and series to be completed on another pair of certified lanes; or
2. Authorize the game and/or series to be bowled on one lane when another pair of certified lanes is not available. However, when the original pair or another pair of certified lanes becomes available, the team(s) may resume play on a pair of lanes.

An interrupted game and series shall be resumed from the point of interruption. When authorized, the requirements of Rule 106a and Rule 106b do not apply.

**NOTE:** Scores bowled while using one lane shall qualify for USBC award recognition.

## PROPOSAL...

Add a new second sentence to the second paragraph to state: “A league official may authorize participants on the pair to practice prior to resuming the game/series.”

Add “or when practice is given” after lane in the note.

**If adopted,** Rule 106c will state:

If equipment failure on a pair of lanes would delay the progress of a series, league officers can:

1. Authorize the game and series to be completed on another pair of certified lanes; or
2. Authorize the game and/or series to be bowled on one lane when another pair of certified lanes is not available. However, when the original pair or another pair of certified lanes becomes available, the team(s) may resume play on a pair of lanes.

An interrupted game and series shall be resumed from the point of interruption. A league official may authorize participants on the pair to practice prior to resuming the game/series. When authorized, the requirements of Rule 106a and Rule 106b do not apply.

**NOTE:** Scores bowled while using one lane or when practice is given shall qualify for USBC award recognition.

## REASON FOR PROPOSAL...

I believe this should be the new rule because in some houses that have lanes that react differently depending on what side of the building you are on, and it is a real thing. Also, just in the past two months, where I bowl two sets of lanes are always breaking down and the teams are always forced to change lanes. Additionally, when this does happen, I have seen bowlers having great games/series and without notice, due to mechanical failure, are pretty much forced to change lanes and without any practice and in some buildings the temperature of the building is different and with cold lanes, start doing poorly as opposed to how well they were doing.

I believe not allowing practice jeopardizes the integrity more than not allowing practice, and it's only a couple of practice balls, since it is fresh oil as if it was the beginning of the night. The new lanes do not know any different. Just like if a baseball game gets postponed in midgame, it is picked up immediately at the same point, at a later date, but before they resume, they get batting and fielding practice to get ready for the game. Why not allow the same type of thing for bowling. We are a civilized organization, let us show it by allowing this.

Presented by: Tony Eades  
 Warsaw, MO

**Recommended for adoption by the USBC Board of Directors**

## RULES PROPOSAL NO. LR 4

Delegate Action	Vote Count	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reject	_____	_____

### PRESENT RULE...

#### USBC Playing Rules Chapter 4, League Rules Rule 113a, Definitions

1. **Roll-off:**

A roll-off is a separate competition conducted to break ties. A roll-off must be conducted:

- To determine the champion when a tie exists for first place at the end of the league schedule, unless the league allows for co-champions.
- To determine first place when a tie occurs in any segment of a split season.
- When the league decides to break a tie for any other position.

2. **Playoff:**

A playoff is a scheduled competition conducted by leagues. The playoff may be conducted in one session to determine a champion when the league bowls a split season, or across multiple sessions such as a bracketed playoff system.

Scores bowled which qualify for USBC awards will be recognized.

### PROPOSAL...

Add "Unless the league rules allow for ties to be broken by total pins in a scratch league or total pins plus handicap in a handicap league." at the beginning of the second sentence of item 1.

*If adopted*, Rule 113a will read:

1. **Roll-off:**

A roll-off is a separate competition conducted to break ties. Unless the league rules allow for ties to be broken by total pins in a scratch league or total pins plus handicap in a handicap league. a roll-off must be conducted:

- To determine the champion when a tie exists for first place at the end of the league schedule, unless the league allows for co-champions.
- To determine first place when a tie occurs in any segment of a split season.
- When the league decides to break a tie for any other position.

2. **Playoff:**

A playoff is a scheduled competition conducted by leagues. The playoff may be conducted in one session to determine a champion when the league bowls a split season, or across multiple sessions such as a bracketed playoff system.

Scores bowled which qualify for USBC awards will be recognized

*If adopted*, the note under Rule 113a will be deleted.

### REASON FOR PROPOSAL....

I would like to give the option for leagues to decide if they want a roll-off or to decide tie breakers by total pins for scratch leagues and total pins with handicap for handicap leagues. Often in fun leagues where there is only 4 points awarded each night a large league could have multiple teams that could win or tie at the end of each segment. Making all of those teams wait around for everyone to finish in case there is a tie can lead to grumpy bowlers that don't care and don't want to stay late for a roll-off. They also don't want to come in at other times or it's difficult to find times for all of the teams involved to come in and have the roll off. This change would make it easier for the family fun leagues to stay fun and less serious with having to conduct a roll off keeping the sport fun for all.

Presented by: Jeff Hagen  
Portland, OR

**Recommended for rejection by the USBC Board of Directors**

***REASON FOR REJECTION....***

Using total pins with or without handicap to break ties automatically gives the advantage to the higher average teams. This change would also allow leagues to decide ties down the entire standings using this method. Currently when teams are tied in a position other than first place, the prize money is added together and divided equally among the tied teams. With this change, the higher average teams have the advantage for every tied position. Since a league can adopt a rule to break ties by bowling a 10th frame, the roll-off rule is not burdensome to require teams bowl to determine a position.

## RULES PROPOSAL NO. LR 5

Delegate Action	Vote Count	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reject	_____	_____

### PRESENT RULE...

#### USBC Playing Rules Chapter 4, League Rules Rule 122, Meetings

League meetings are conducted under the following requirements:

- The secretary shall notify the members or team captains of all league meetings.
- To conduct business, a quorum must be in attendance. In youth leagues, the league supervisor or official must also be in attendance.
- Absentee and proxy votes are not acceptable. Only members present are eligible to vote.

Rules shall be adopted at a meeting prior to the start of the league schedule by the board of directors, unless the league elects to have its rules adopted by the membership. After the league schedule begins, a change in the league rules and approved prize list can be made only with the written consent of every team captain or designated representative.

### PROPOSAL...

Change "or" to "and" in item a.

Delete ", unless the league elects to have its rules adopted by the membership" in the first sentence of the second paragraph and replace with "All can attend but only one member per team will be eligible to vote."

Add new items d and e to state:

- All requests for the purpose of making changes to the current season's league's bylaws rules, (With details for the reason(s) why), for the following season, must be submitted in writing to the current season's President and Secretary, five (5) weeks before the end of the schedule (Start / Stop) based on notification within the current season bylaws season. At the close of the season last meeting (PAYOFF), a copy of pending changes will be presented to the body to be discussed at the annual meeting prior to the start of the league schedule.
- During the annual meeting prior to the start of the league schedule, any additional changes/request/discussion followed by a motion and properly second (Based on "Robert's Rules of Order") can be made only with the consent (vote) of every team captain or designated representative (100 percent) with the exception of "League Cap and/or Average Handicap" changes. A vote will be unacceptable during this process.

**If adopted,** Rule 122 will read:

League meetings are conducted under the following requirements:

- The secretary shall notify the members and team captains of all league meetings.
- To conduct business, a quorum must be in attendance. In youth leagues, the league supervisor or official must also be in attendance.
- Absentee and proxy votes are not acceptable. Only members present are eligible to vote.
- All requests for the purpose of making changes to the current season's league's bylaws rules, (With details for the reason(s) why), for the following season, must be submitted in writing to the current season's President and Secretary, five (5) weeks before the end of the schedule (Start / Stop) based on notification within the current season bylaws season. At the close of the season last meeting (PAYOFF), a copy of pending changes will be presented to the body to be discussed at the annual meeting prior to the start of the league schedule.
- During the annual meeting prior to the start of the league schedule, any additional changes/request/discussion followed by a motion and properly second (Based on "Robert's Rules of Order") can be made only with the consent (vote) of every team captain or designated representative (100 percent) with the exception of "League Cap and/or Average Handicap" changes. A vote will be unacceptable during this process.

Rules shall be adopted at a meeting prior to the start of the league schedule by the board of directors. All can attend but only one member per team will be eligible to vote. After the league schedule begins, a change in the league rules and approved prize list can be made only with the written consent of every team captain or designated representative

### **REASON FOR PROPOSAL....**

To bring league (Annual) meetings up to “Robert’s Rules of Order” level/standard to discourage collusion because of bowlers continuing efforts to undermine current environment. To put it bluntly “FLASH MOB” has arrived in our bowling community. Also to strengthen process for changes made via league bylaws. My experience most Board of Directors of leagues is not fully educated in this matter, making it necessary for Local Associations representatives to be available at said meetings because they will not ask for help.

Remember, at the end of the previous season the president would indicate the conclusion of said season and notify all there that the league is disbanded and only one with rights will be the franchise (Team Captain) person. A quorum at all meetings is “Board of directors and Team Captains” with the exception of emergency meetings during the season which will require all membership to participate.

All league meetings are “BOARD OF DIRECTORS” meetings except for this one. We need to bring this meeting in-line with all the other meetings especially since the team franchise belongs to the team captain. Team members are looking/sending their team captain as their representative. It is my understanding that bowlers are not members until he or she bowls. To allow anyone admission to this meeting and be able to vote goes against the fabric of standards.

The time has come for USBC to recognize the need for changes at the league level. There is too much conflict of interest and failure to consider these changes can only increase the reduction of new bowlers to the sport of bowling and long-term bowlers will continue to walk away as we demonstrate our unprofessionalism. It has now come to the point whereas details for why rules are in the bylaws are required. So much is being lost in the translations making it almost impossible to explain. We must also protect new bowlers coming in whom just want to bowl and have no knowledge on this subject will just vote yes to get it over with. This makes their first impression of league very negative and most will sooner or later just walk away in the middle of the season.

This add/change is required to be consistent with “Robert’s Rules of Order” when it comes to notification of request and/or pending changes. A person or persons joining an established organization (in this case, a league) should not be able to (a) Take advantage of said established league, (b) make changes to years of established rule(s) to support their hidden agenda (c) Rule(s) changes that only benefit the one team and/or the person(s) making the request should be denied as being an unfavorable request/action to the “Best Interest” to the league. Example: League’s “Cap Rule” due to time restraints. In other words, the request should be table for next year for further investigation. If the request for “League Cap” modification is made before the end of the season, then everybody gets a chance to modify their teams before said annual meeting. (d) Last but not least “Proxy”. Part of “Robert’s Rules of Order” is the “Proxy” Option. As an organization that is supposed to follow this procedure, each and every President should be aware of and execute (a) 30 days notification with agenda, with option(s) to submit topic for discussion and request changes submitted in writing within 30 of said meeting. By allowing “Proxies” would also strengthen the knowledge of how many bowlers a league will have versus the normal guess work and give every team the same number of votes. This is the purpose of only allowing one vote per team. A team captain or franchise owner without other members available to vote can only vote once while others may have up to 5 votes. This is why I am in favor of one vote per team. I know I repeated the message but I felt it was important to do so. At this point only the team captain franchise owner is responsible for team. For the good of the sport, I can forgo proxy vote. In the best interest of the league, the President must have the power to reject/table unfavorable requests for further discussion at the meeting prior to the start of the schedule season.

This is the backbone of our democracy.

Presented by: Jerry F. Paige Sr.  
Temple Hills, MD

**Recommended for rejection by the USBC Board of Directors**

***REASON FOR REJECTION....***

We currently have a system in place that works for leagues. This change would require the former season's league to adopt rules for the upcoming season, and very few changes are allowed. Each season's league has a right and obligation to adopt the rules that work for their league.

This proposal was adopted by the USBC Board of Directors effective April 13, 2020. In accordance with Article IV, Section E, Item 14 of the USBC National Bylaws, this proposal is being presented to the delegates for their approval.

## BYLAWS PROPOSAL NO. B 1

Delegate Action	Vote Count	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reject	_____	_____

### **PRESENT BYLAW...**

**USBC National Bylaws  
Article IV, Board of Directors  
Section E. Authority and Duties**

Management and governance of USBC is vested in the Board of Directors. The Board is a strategic governing body; and its powers and duties include, but are not limited to:

1. Developing strategic business and membership marketing plans;
2. Determining programs and services;
3. Allocating resources;
4. Establishing standards and monitoring the performance of USBC;
5. Employing and evaluating the Executive Director;
6. Determining USBC policy positions;
7. Providing oversight of the administration of USBC;
8. Approving policies and procedures for:
  - a. Managing contracts and obligations;
  - b. Reviewing revenues and expenditures;
  - c. Maintaining records and minutes of meetings;
9. Exercising final jurisdiction over general playing rules, violations and interpretations of USBC Bylaws, playing rules, policies and regulations, disputes with or among chartered state and local associations, and issues arising from league and tournament play, including protests and appeals, and all other matters or issues concerning the sport of bowling as governed by USBC;
10. Interpreting any provision adopted by it and/or the delegates and its interpretation shall be final;
11. Amending, interpreting, and enforcing, either directly or by delegation, all policies and procedures, rules and requirements, criteria and standards for: certification, equipment specifications, awards, suspension and reinstatement, National tournaments, and all other USBC management and governance matters other than those specifically reserved to the Delegates;
12. Amending, interpreting, and enforcing all policies and procedures, bylaws, rules and requirements, criteria and standards for Athlete and youth issues;
13. Reserving the authority over the applicability and enforceability of the USOPC requirements within the organization;
14. Amending or suspending these Bylaws, and the league rules, and tournament rules in the event the Board considers it expedient and in the best interests of USBC or to avoid disadvantage to USBC and/or changes in Federal and/or state law, rules and regulations that affect the applicability or the enforceability of any part of these Bylaws, league rules, and tournament rules. Any changes made under this provision must be ratified by the Delegates and is otherwise subject to Delegate action consistent with applicable law;
15. Renumbering, revising, codifying and correcting any provision in the bylaws, and any and all rules and regulations of USBC to eliminate errors in spelling, grammar and numbering, and to change the order and sequence and to adopt provisions consistent with these Bylaws;
16. Establishing annual National dues up to the maximum set by the Delegates as well as establishing terms and conditions for collection of dues;
17. Establishing other membership categories and dues;
18. Managing International relations;
19. Exercising care and supervision over state and local associations;
20. Communicating applicable rules and any changes to members;
21. Approving certified bowling facilities for training and competition;
22. Developing athlete teams for National and International competition;
23. Reviewing requests for certification to hold amateur bowling competitions, and determining whether to grant certifications, according to the requirements of the USOC (if applicable) and as provided in written policies approved by the Board.

## **PROPOSAL...**

Add a new item 15 to state:

Temporarily amending or suspending these Bylaws, State, Local and Affiliate Bylaws and the league rules and tournament rules in cases of government declared emergencies or disasters, pandemic, attack on the United States, or any nuclear or atomic disaster.

**If adopted**, Article IV, Sec E will state:

Management and governance of USBC is vested in the Board of Directors. The Board is a strategic governing body; and its powers and duties include, but are not limited to:

1. Developing strategic business and membership marketing plans;
2. Determining programs and services;
3. Allocating resources;
4. Establishing standards and monitoring the performance of USBC;
5. Employing and evaluating the Executive Director;
6. Determining USBC policy positions;
7. Providing oversight of the administration of USBC;
8. Approving policies and procedures for:
  - a. Managing contracts and obligations;
  - b. Reviewing revenues and expenditures;
  - c. Maintaining records and minutes of meetings;
9. Exercising final jurisdiction over general playing rules, violations and interpretations of USBC Bylaws, playing rules, policies and regulations, disputes with or among chartered state and local associations, and issues arising from league and tournament play, including protests and appeals, and all other matters or issues concerning the sport of bowling as governed by USBC;
10. Interpreting any provision adopted by it and/or the delegates and its interpretation shall be final;
11. Amending, interpreting, and enforcing, either directly or by delegation, all policies and procedures, rules and requirements, criteria and standards for: certification, equipment specifications, awards, suspension and reinstatement, National tournaments, and all other USBC management and governance matters other than those specifically reserved to the Delegates;
12. Amending, interpreting, and enforcing all policies and procedures, bylaws, rules and requirements, criteria and standards for Athlete and youth issues;
13. Reserving the authority over the applicability and enforceability of the USOPC requirements within the organization;
14. Amending or suspending these Bylaws, and the league rules, and tournament rules in the event the Board considers it expedient and in the best interests of USBC or to avoid disadvantage to USBC and/or changes in Federal and/or state law, rules and regulations that affect the applicability or the enforceability of any part of these Bylaws, league rules, and tournament rules. Any changes made under this provision must be ratified by the Delegates and is otherwise subject to Delegate action consistent with applicable law;
15. Temporarily amending or suspending these Bylaws, State, Local and Affiliate Bylaws and the league rules and tournament rules in cases of government declared emergencies or disasters, pandemic, attack on the United States, or any nuclear or atomic disaster;
16. Renumbering, revising, codifying and correcting any provision in the bylaws, and any and all rules and regulations of USBC to eliminate errors in spelling, grammar and numbering, and to change the order and sequence and to adopt provisions consistent with these Bylaws;
17. Establishing annual National dues up to the maximum set by the Delegates as well as establishing terms and conditions for collection of dues;
18. Establishing other membership categories and dues;
19. Managing International relations;
20. Exercising care and supervision over state and local associations;
21. Communicating applicable rules and any changes to members;
22. Approving certified bowling facilities for training and competition;
23. Developing athlete teams for National and International competition;

24. Reviewing requests for certification to hold amateur bowling competitions, and determining whether to grant certifications, according to the requirements of the USOC (if applicable) and as provided in written policies approved by the Board.

***If adopted***, effective immediately.

### **REASON FOR PROPOSAL...**

Due to COVID-19, USBC has had to forgo bylaws and rules to enact emergency decisions. In this type of situation, it is reasonable / practical for USBC to operate and manage the functions of the organization as opposed to delaying actions in order for the delegates to ratify temporary board action months later.

In cases of emergency, the USBC Board needs the authority to make decisions to temporarily suspend bylaws and rules to make timely and efficient decisions. Necessary decisions would be disseminated by the Board through news releases.

Further, the suggested language changes to the USBC bylaws are not only a recommended best practice, but the proposal tracks with amendments made by various states to business cooperation laws.

This action will only be temporarily and once the emergency has concluded the bylaws and/or rules will go back into effect.

Presented by: Executive Advisory Committee

**Approved by the USBC Board of Directors**