



2022 USBC Masters Rules

***All rules for the 2022 USBC Masters are subject to change due to concerns with COVID-19. This includes, but is not limited to, tournament dates, location, format(s), operations and athlete services.**

If state or local health regulations require a mask mandate for athletes during the television finals of the event, then USBC has the option to relocate the television finals to an alternative venue that does not have a government mask mandate.

All athlete services shall be conducted electronically whenever possible. Participants will be required to submit a waiver/release prior to competition. All athletes are subject to COVID-19 policies, procedures and protocols which will be published and distributed prior to the event.

Health precautions, such as a temperature check, may be done prior to entry into the bowling center. Should a competitor exhibit symptoms of COVID-19, including, but not limited to, a temperature above 100.4 degrees, the proper local health authorities will be notified for potential follow-up and contact tracing.

Anyone who has been tested for COVID-19 within 14 days of the first official day of competition must inform tournament management. If the participant is unaware of the test results, he/she may not compete until a negative result has been received.

All athletes must be 18 years of age and older as of the first day of USBC Masters competition.

The 2022 USBC Masters is USBC-certified. The game of American tenpins will be played. This is a scratch singles tournament with qualifying rounds, match play and stepladder finals.

BOWLING EQUIPMENT

Bowling Balls

- All bowling balls must meet USBC specifications. It is the player's responsibility to ensure all equipment is eligible for competition.
- 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.
- Plugged bowling balls are allowed.
- Random bowling ball checks may be done as deemed necessary by tournament management.
- Bowlers may request to have their bowling balls checked prior to competition.
- All bowling balls must be on the USBC-approved list on BOWL.com prior to being introduced into play.
- If a competitor uses a bowling ball not on the USBC-approved list, or one that does not meet USBC specifications, the bowler will be disqualified from the tournament.

Powder



- No substance, including, but not limited to, talcum powder and EZ Slide, can be applied to the bottom of a player's shoes.
 - **NOTE: The tournament director may allow a player to remove foreign substances from the bowling ball surface with authorized cleaners on a case-by-case basis.**

Use of Abrasives on Ball Surface or Other Modification

- Once the competition begins, no abrasives, cleaners or polishes may be used on equipment. The use of abrasives, cleaners or polishes is permitted during practice and warm-up, but never during competition. In addition, all sanding products must be removed from the players' area (i.e. Abralon, sandpaper, etc.)
 - If any abrasives, cleaners or polishes are seen in the competition area, the player will be fined \$250.
 - If an abrasive, cleaner or polish is used, player is fined \$250 and the ball is removed from play for the remainder of the round.
 - If an abrasive, cleaner or polish is used, and the ball is thrown in competition, player is disqualified.
- The use of isopropyl alcohol for bowlers to clean their equipment during competition is permitted. Bowlers must provide their own alcohol and towel. This equipment may not be shared.

Ball Checks

- Bowling ball checks may be done as deemed necessary by the tournament director. A competitor is subject to disqualification and forfeiture of all points and prize money earned from the tournament if any bowling ball recorded on the competitor's scoring recap:
 1. Cannot be produced within 30 minutes of being requested by the tournament director.
 2. Does not meet specifications as stated in Chapter 8 of the USBC Playing Rules or the USBC Equipment Specifications and Certifications Manual.
 3. Is knowingly tampered with to no longer meet USBC Specifications as stated in the USBC Equipment Specifications and Certifications Manual (USBC Rule 17a-1).
- NOTE on items 2 and 3: If a competitor suspects that a bowling ball used by another competitor does not meet specifications, or was tampered with, they must inform the tournament director in writing. Tournament director reserves the right to request evidence the participant violated Rule 17a-1 before securing the ball for inspection.
- The tournament director will notify the competitor and inspect the bowling ball in question at a time of the tournament director's choosing. A decision will be rendered as soon as the appropriate measurements or USBC field test can be completed.
- If ball passes inspection, the competitor who requested the inspection will be assessed a Code of Ethics violation, a \$500 fine and a possible discipline. The decision of the tournament director shall be final.
- If the ball fails inspection, the ball shall be removed from competition and confiscated to prevent further use. Competitor shall only be subject to disqualification if there is a Rule 17 violation.

COMPETITORS' GUESTS



- Will be permitted in accordance with state and local capacity restrictions as well as in agreement with USBC management.
- Spectators must adhere to state and local mask requirements.

CONDUCT

- All tournament bowlers shall always conduct themselves in a professional manner while in the host center, on the property of the host center and on social media, before, during and after the event. Any criticism by a tournament bowler who discusses the sponsor, host center or personnel, lane conditions or pins, USBC or its staff or their fellow competitors in an unfavorable manner, or who otherwise engages in actions unbecoming of a USBC bowler in the opinion of the tournament director, shall be in violation of the Code of Conduct.
- Electronic media. The USBC regards electronic media, such as message boards, conversation pages and other forms of social networking (such as Facebook and Twitter) as important tools of communication and fan interaction. Tournament participants may not use these platforms to defame or otherwise attack the integrity of the USBC, its members, staff, sponsors, host center or host center employees.
- Individuals are subject to ejection for engaging in improper tactics or conduct including, but not limited to, physical and verbal abuse toward another person.
- The Code of Conduct shall apply to all credentialed manufacturer's representatives.
- Anyone found to be in violation of the Code of Conduct will be fined and may be refused entry to the event or disqualified from the competition in which the violation occurred and/or declared ineligible for future competitions.
- First offense: \$250; Second offense: \$500; Third offense: \$1,000

DEAD BALL SITUATIONS

- The tournament director must be called and will make all decisions regarding dead ball situations.

Bowling on the Wrong Lane

- Bowling on the wrong lane constitutes a potential dead ball situation, provided it is protested before the offending competitor (or his or her opponent in match play) bowls again.
- If a competitor rolls a strike on the wrong lane, he or she must bowl again on the correct lane.
- If the competitor does not strike, his or her pin count will stand, and he or she must shoot the spare on the same lane.
 - First Offense: Warning; Subsequent Offenses: \$50

Bowling Out of Turn

- Bowling out of turn is a dead ball situation (USBC Rule 9)
- First Offense: Warning; Subsequent Offenses: \$50

Dead Wood

- If a pin is in the channel, a competitor must consult the competitors on his or her pair to determine if it is in play. If any other competitor feels the pin is in play, it must be removed before a shot is thrown.



- If the competitor attempts a spare conversion while a pin is in play, and the ball contacts the dead wood before leaving the lane surface, he or she shall receive zero for the shot.
- If the competitor attempts a spare conversion while a pin is in play and any pin after coming in contact with the dead wood knocks down one or more pins, he or she shall receive zero for the shot.

Missing Pins

- If it is determined that any pins were missing from the rack at which a competitor shot, he or she must redo that shot.

DEFENDING CHAMPION

- An allocated position for the defending champion will be held until tournament entry closing date. Entry fees are the responsibility of the defending champion. If the position has not been claimed by the close of entries, the position will be released to the first person on the waiting list.
- The defending champion must bowl all qualifying squads. The bowler will be seeded according to qualifying score, unless finishing below the lowest match-play qualifier, in which case, he or she will be placed in lowest position for match play.
- If a bowler withdraws from the tournament after qualifying and before match play begins, the bowler will forfeit the opportunity to compete in match play and automatically will be placed in lowest position for match play and will cash in that position. The first two matches (double elimination) for that seed would be forfeited, with the opponent still having to bowl the three games to advance.

DELAYS AND MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS

- If a delay or mechanical breakdown of 10 minutes or longer occurs during competition, tournament management may authorize warm-up ball(s) prior to the re-starting of competition. Timing will begin the moment the tournament director is notified of the breakdown.
- An alternate pair shall be used whenever possible when awarding warm-up in the event of a breakdown.
- If an alternate pair is not available, two (2) shots will be awarded on the lane opposite of where the competitor will throw his or her next shot for score.
- If a breakdown requires competitors to move to an alternate pair not previously used in the tournament, each competitor required to move will receive two (2) warm-up shots on each lane. Subsequent incoming bowlers receive no warm-up shots.
- If pair is repaired, it will remain out of play for all squads, unless a re-oil occurs. Pair may be brought back in to play if needed due to additional breakdowns.
- Bowlers are responsible to pace themselves accordingly with the pairs in front of them. No warm-up shots will be awarded for slow bowling.

DRESS CODE

Requirements

- **The dress code is in effect anytime a competitor is in the venue (name shirt only required during practice, warm-up and competition).**



- A collared shirt with the participant's name on the back must be worn during every round of competition, practice, pro-am and sweeper. Mock turtlenecks or bowling jerseys without collars are allowed.
- Lettering must be at least two inches in height and contrasting color to your shirt color.
- Detachable name plaques of any kind are not acceptable. Names may be embroidered, silk-screened, iron-on or sublimated.
- Exception: Any Team USA member wearing a Team USA jersey.
- Men must wear dress slacks.
- Women may wear dress slacks, shorts, skorts or skirts. Length of skirt, skorts or shorts must be below the bowler's fingertips when they are standing with their arms are hanging down at their sides. No exceptions.
- Examples of prohibited attire include, but are not limited to:
 - Tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, spaghetti strap tops, hats. Hats are permitted for documented medical conditions only.
 - Workout attire, including leggings, short shorts, short skirts, bib overalls, T-shirts.
 - Cords, jeans, or any kind of denim.

Logos

- Small fashion or commercial logos are permitted on apparel during USBC competition if they do not exceed six square inches. Logos are defined as any lettering and or any illustration promoting a company, product and service or membership organization. Pro shop logos are permitted if they do not exceed six square inches.

Exception: If there is a televised portion of the event, and that portion is produced by PBA, then PBA logo rules will apply to the televised portion of the tournament.

Practice Session and Sweepers

- The dress code for the official practice session and sweepers will be the same as the tournament dress code.

Penalty

- Bowlers will be required to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by tournament management.
- Tournament management has the authority to fine a bowler \$100 for each offense.
- Tournament management's decision regarding appropriate dress will be final.

EATING, DRINKING, SMOKING

- Entrants are NOT permitted to smoke or drink alcoholic beverages while participating in this event. This includes from the start of practice to the last ball thrown for score in qualifying, match play and finals.
- Penalty: First Offense: \$25 fine; Subsequent Offenses: \$50 fine
- Bowlers are permitted to eat a small snack (ex: Power Bars, candy bars, fruit) during competition.

ELIGIBILITY

- All participants must be current USBC members with a minimum average of 180.



- If current membership cannot be verified, a USBC Associate membership card must be purchased at the tournament site at a cost of \$25 USD.
- All participants must be 18 years of age and older as of the first day of USBC Masters competition.
- All participants give USBC their unqualified permission to use their photograph for publicity purposes, to arrange for the telecasts or broadcasts of the tournament without cost to the participant and without sharing revenue derived therefrom with them.
- Current and former PBA and/or PWBA members must be in good standing with the PBA and/or PWBA.

ENTRY DEADLINE

- Entries will be taken until March 26, 2022, or when the tournament field is full, whichever occurs first.

FEES

- Entry fee is \$500 until March 1, 2022.
- Entry fee is \$550 beginning March 2, 2022.
- A \$25 processing fee will apply for all entries not done online.
- The prize ratio will be at least one (1) for every four (4) entrants. (1:4).
- See "Refund Policy" for additional information.

FORMAT

Qualifying

- Each entrant will bowl three blocks of five games each. Each bowler's 15-game total will be used to determine qualifiers for match play.
- A bowler arriving late may begin play, and his/her score will count beginning with the frame then being bowled.

Match play

- Match play will be composed of the top 63 bowlers, plus the defending champion.
- The defending champion is guaranteed a spot in match play. See "Defending Champion" for more details.
- Each match will consist of three games. Total pinfall shall determine the winner.
- Double-elimination format will be used. A player is eliminated after two losses. The stepladder finals will be single elimination. See "Stepladder Finals" for more details.
- All match-play participants start in the Winners Bracket. After losing one match, they enter the Elimination Bracket.
- If forfeiture occurs in the Winners Bracket, the forfeiting bowler automatically goes into the proper position in the Elimination Bracket.
- The order of bowling will be according to match-game procedure, with the bowler on the odd lane starting first. Higher seed from qualifying will have choice of starting lane throughout match play.
- Alternates will not be used in match play. Bowlers arriving late for their matches in any round will bowl beginning with the frame then being bowled by their opponent. Failure to appear, regardless of cause, will constitute a forfeiture of the match. The opponent still must bowl his/her three games to advance to the next round. A pacer, if available, will be allowed.



- If a bowler is disabled during the match and is unable to continue, he/she will receive a zero for all missed frames.

Stepladder Finals

- The stepladder finals will be a single-elimination format.
- Positions are determined as follows:
- Position No. 1 – Winner of the final round of the Winners Bracket. Position No. 2 – Loser of the final round of the Winners Bracket. Positions No. 3 - No. 4 - No. 5 – Will come from the Elimination Bracket. **Positions No. 1 and No. 2 must return at the conclusion of the (4) Elimination bracket shootout match for special introduction. Penalty: \$100**
- The four (4) remaining players from the Elimination bracket will bowl a three-game match, all on the same pair of lanes. The highest series will be seeded No. 3 for the stepladder. The next-highest series will be seeded No. 4. The third-highest series will be seeded No. 5. The low series will be eliminated.
- Any tie for positions No. 3 - No. 4 - No. 5 will require a one-ball roll-off. Should a tie still exist one-ball roll-offs will continue until the tie is broken.
- In the stepladder, positions No. 5 and No. 4 will bowl a one-game match, that winner will bowl against No. 3 and so on, until all bowlers have bowled.
- The last match will consist of winner of previous match vs. position No. 1 to declare the champion. If the stepladder finals are not televised, and the No. 1 seed loses the first game in the championship match, they will bowl a second game to determine the champion.
- If there is a change in the TV format, notice will be posted in the tournament office, and participants will be notified prior to the start of the tournament.

LANE ASSIGNMENTS

- Lane assignments will be posted in the locker room.

LATE ARRIVAL

- If a bowler is late for his or her squad, any round other than the first round of the tournament, he or she will receive zero for each frame missed.

LANE OIL PATTERN

- The pattern will be posted at the tournament venue, no later than the start of the first official practice session.
- Will be Sport-compliant.

LANE COURTESY

- Competitors must observe one-pair lane courtesy at all times and shall not “double-jump.” Double-jumping occurs following a delivery when a competitor on the same pair delivers his or her ball before one competitor from the pair to the right and one competitor from the pair to the left have made a delivery, unless those competitors are not ready to bowl.
 - PENALTY: First Offense – Warning; Subsequent offenses – \$100

LOCKER ROOM



- Access to the locker room – Only tournament bowlers, USBC staff members and approved ball company representatives are permitted to enter the locker room and use all equipment. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Ball limit in the locker room – Each player will be allowed to keep a maximum of twelve (12) bowling balls in the locker room at any time. Ball limit restrictions will be enforced by the tournament director.
- Bowlers will be fined \$50 per ball over 12 in the locker room and all additional balls will be removed from the center.
- Security – The locker room will be locked one (1) hour after the end of competition each day and opened one (1) hour prior to the start of each day's competition.

MOBILE/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- The use of all mobile/electronic devices during competition will be prohibited. This includes cell phone, tablet, laptop, iPod and any electronic device of any kind. Penalties are per tournament.
- First offense - \$250 and device is confiscated until end of round.
- Second offense - \$500 and device is confiscated until end of round.
- Third offense - \$1,000 and the player is removed from competition.

PERSONNEL IN THE BOWLERS' AREA

- The tournament director will define the bowlers' area prior to the start of competition.

Authorized Personnel

- Only tournament competitors, USBC staff and tournament volunteers are permitted in the bowlers' area during competition. Media personnel covering the event may be permitted into the bowlers' area on a case-by-case basis.

Ball Manufacturer Representatives

- Credentialed bowling ball manufacturer representatives (ball reps) may remain in the bowlers' area during official practice sessions and warm-up sessions only and must leave the bowlers' area when the warm-up session is complete. Credentialed manufacturer representatives must be in business casual attire at all times when in the venue. Only representatives officially designated by their company will be credentialed. Failure to follow the dress code may result in the revocation of credential.

Incoming Squads

- Competitors on incoming squads may not enter the bowlers' area until both their starting and adjacent pairs are finished.
- First Offense: Warning; Subsequent Offenses: Conduct Violation and \$100

PRACTICE SESSIONS

- Official practice sessions will be available to all bowlers. Dates and times of the practice sessions will be posted on the official tournament webpage.
- Competitors may only practice during their assigned squads practice session.



- There are no lane assignments for the practice sessions. Bowlers are free to move around the venue.
- 10 minutes of warm-up will be available to each bowler prior to each round of qualifying and match play.

PRIZE MONEY AND AWARDS

- Participants that have elected to receive an automatic deposit for any earnings and completed the EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) form will have their money deposited within 30 days of the conclusion of the tournament according to the information provided on the completed EFT form.
- Those not electing to receive prize money via EFT will have their prize checks mailed to them within 30 days of the conclusion of the tournament to the address supplied at registration.
- If for any reason a bowler wishes to waive the prize money, it is the participant's responsibility to notify tournament staff in writing, at time of registration regarding their refusal of the prize money. If the prize money is waived, the amount will be returned to the prize fund for distribution.
- The only sums to which a participant will be entitled for bowling in this tournament are those prizes or awards that may be won by the participant in this tournament.
- The IRS requires USBC to furnish 1099 forms to individuals who accumulate winnings of \$600 or more annually in any USBC event in which they participate. Therefore, Social Security numbers are required by IRS regulations.
- Failure to furnish a Social Security number (U.S. citizens) or Individual Tax ID Number-ITIN (non-U.S. citizens) to USBC will result in a 30 percent tax reduction of the prize check.
- If a bowler has a USBC youth membership, he/she still can maintain youth eligibility to participate in youth certified competition by signing a USBC prize waiver (available on-site). Tournament winnings will be deposited in the SMART scholarship program, unless the player waives claim to his/her winnings. Collegiate bowlers should verify prize acceptance policies with their compliance offices prior to participating in the competition.

PRO-AM

- All players must be available to participate in at least one pro-am as needed.
- Failure to participate in an assigned pro-am squad may result in a fine of \$200 and/or disqualification from tournament.

PROTESTS

- Protests concerning scoring accuracy must be filed with tournament management immediately.
- Complaints concerning approach conditions or other equipment must be brought to the attention of the tournament director. An inspection will be made and, if needed, corrections will be made. If complaint is determined to be unwarranted, the contestant must proceed to bowl, or the games will be declared forfeited.

APPEALS



- Appeals of penalties or fines must be filed with the USBC Rules department within 10 days or receipt of notice.
- Decision of USBC Rules department is final.
- If the appeal is denied, the competitor must pay all fines and/or serve the full term of the penalty prior to competing in any future event.
- A competitor who files an appeal may compete in other tournaments pending the outcome provided the appeal is in writing and includes all defenses or mitigating circumstances claimed.

REFUND POLICY

- A refund will be given, less \$50 cancellation fee, to a bowler who withdraws prior to the start of the first official practice session.

RE-RACKS

- Each bowler is allowed two re-racks per game during qualifying and match play.
- Additional re-racks may be granted with tournament management's permission.

SCORESHEETS

- Verifying and signing the scoresheet (qualifying). Competitors are responsible for verifying and signing both their own scoresheet and their competitor's scoresheet. Verification of information includes game scores, total pins, plus/minus totals and bowling balls used in competition. Penalty: \$25
- Verifying and signing the scoresheet (match play). Verify and initial the opponent's scoresheet immediately following each match.
- Documenting equipment on the scoresheet. Competitors must document each bowling ball used during the round on their scoresheet by the end of the first game the ball is put into play. Documentation of each bowling ball should include last four digits of the serial number.
- Damage to scoresheets. Competitors may not intentionally damage their scoresheets.
Penalty: \$25
- Official scores. Once a competitor signs his or her scoresheet, he or she agrees that barring any necessary mathematical corrections, the score becomes official. USBC shall have one hour to make any mathematical corrections, but any other disputes that would result in the improvement of a competitor's score shall not be allowed.

SQUADS

- All efforts will be made to post the tournament roster on BOWL.com four weeks in advance of the tournament, with updates occurring on a weekly basis. Squad assignments will be posted on the official tournament webpage no later than seven days prior to the first day of qualifying. It is the bowlers' responsibility to verify what squad they are on before the start of competition.
- All squad requests must be sent to the tournament director in writing by March 1, 2022. Squad requests are not guaranteed.
- If a bowler is late for his or her squad, he or she will receive zero for each frame missed. Bowlers who are late for an earlier squad will not be moved to a later squad, except for extreme circumstances.



- Tournament management reserves the right to change the number of qualifying squads in the tournament as late as seven days prior to the first day of qualifying, based on entries.

SLOW PLAY

- A competitor shall have 25 seconds to start his or her delivery once the lane courtesy requirement has been satisfied. Slow bowling penalties will be assessed at the discretion of the tournament director.
 - First Offense: Warning; Subsequent Offenses: \$100

START OF COMPETITION

- The definition of the "start of competition" is when any participant's first ball is thrown for score during qualifying, match play and the stepladder finals.

TIEBREAKERS

Qualifying

- If there is a tie for the last qualifying position into a cut round, all tied competitors will compete in a one-game roll-off immediately following the completion of the round. Bowlers shall compete on a neutral pair selected by the tournament director. Bowler with highest qualifying block chooses starting lane, and bowler on odd lane will start.
- If a tie still exists at the end of the game, a one-ball roll-off will be bowled on the same pair of lanes in accordance with the tiebreaker procedures for match play and stepladder finals.
- Roll-Off Deadline – Any competitor scheduled for a roll-off, who is not in the host center within 30 minutes of the announcement of the tie, will be disqualified from the roll-off.
- In the event of a tie for any other position, the bowler with the highest five-game qualifying block will be placed in the higher position. Should both bowlers have the same score for their high block, the second-highest five-game qualifying block will be used, and so on, until the tie is broken. If bowlers have the same individual block totals, the high single qualifying game will be used, and so on, until the tie is broken.

Match Play and Stepladder Finals

- In the event of a tie during any match play or stepladder round, all tied competitors will compete in a one-ball roll-off. The highest-seeded competitor shall determine starting lane and position for the roll-off. The next-highest seed shall select their position, and so on, until all positions are determined. The competitors shall bowl on the same lane, and then alternate lanes in the same bowling order, until the tie is broken.

TOURNAMENT ROLL CALL

- Roll call will be called 30 minutes prior to the first round of competition and the first round of match play. Additional roll calls may be scheduled as necessary at the discretion of the tournament director. Players are considered tardy if they do not acknowledge their presence during roll call. Roll call is mandatory. The penalty for missing roll call is a \$25 fine and possible loss of entry.



TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT

- Tournament management has the final authority to make interpretations of any tournament rules and make decisions regarding anything not covered in the rules.

TOURNAMENT STANDBY LIST

- A standby list will be created when all available spots have been filled. Bowlers on the standby list will be notified when a spot in the tournament has become available.
- A competitor not available to bowl at the official starting time posted for his/her first round will be disqualified and replaced by the next standby in line in the tournament venue. If the first person on the standby list is not present, a sliding scale will be used to fill the open spots.
- At the discretion of the tournament director, standby competitors may be granted permission to practice during one practice session on the official practice day.

WEBPAGE

- All tournament information can be found at BOWL.com.
- It is each bowler's responsibility to check the tournament webpage periodically for updated information.

WITHDRAWING AFTER THE TOURNAMENT HAS STARTED

- In order to withdraw before the start of the tournament, the competitor must notify the tournament director.
- Any competitor who wishes to withdraw while the tournament is in progress must notify the bowlers on his or her pair and then receive permission from the tournament director. Failure to comply will result in a Conduct Violation.



TERMINATION /RELEASE CLAUSE

To the executive director of the United States Bowling Congress: I hereby make application to participate in this USBC Championship event listed and tender the entry fees required, therefore. I warrant that I am a USBC member. I agree to abide by all tournament playing rules and regulations prescribed by USBC, including all provisions set forth on this form. I 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 entrant whose name appears on this application and/or authorized replacement hereby agrees that the USBC, and its officers and agents, shall not be liable for any injury resulting from participation in bowling in the event, absent willful or gross negligence on the part of USBC.