



# Sample Youth League Rules

**NOTE:** The following is a set of league rules, which may be adopted by completing the blanks. Other rules may be added, but cannot in any way conflict with USBC Rules.

The \_\_\_\_\_ League will bowl on \_\_\_\_\_ (day of week) at \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm at \_\_\_\_\_ (name of bowling center). The league will have a scheduled starting date of \_\_\_\_\_ and a scheduled ending date of \_\_\_\_\_ and will participate for a total of \_\_\_\_\_ weeks. The league will not bowl on the following dates: \_\_\_\_\_.

**OPTION:** The schedule will be divided into \_\_\_\_\_ (halves/ thirds/ quarters). (If this option is adopted, see optional league rule 18 for more information.)

**Rule 1.** The league supervisor/ official and/ or board of directors, which consists of the officers and team captains, shall manage this league. The (supervisor/ official/ board of directors/ membership) adopts these rules. (Refer to USBC Rule 104.)

The officers serving on the league board of directors are as follows:

Position	Name	Home Phone	Work Phone
League Supervisor			
League Official			
President*			
Vice President*			
Secretary*			
Treasurer*			
Sergeant-at-Arms*			

\* Youth officers for leagues where a majority of the membership is 14 years old or older. Sergeant-at-Arms is optional.

**Rule 2.** Teams will have a playing strength of \_\_\_\_\_. Membership in the league is open to males and females from age \_\_\_\_\_ to age \_\_\_\_\_ as of August 1 of the current bowling season. Anyone under suspension by the responsible league official and/ or USBC is ineligible to participate in the league.

**Rule 3** Each league member will pay \$\_\_\_\_\_ at each league session; \$\_\_\_\_\_ will cover the cost of bowling, and \$\_\_\_\_\_ will be the award fee which will be placed in the league’s account. All league members must pay their bowling fees on time to remain in the league. Award fee will be returned to the bowlers 100% in the form of (scholarships/ awards). (Refer to USBC Rule 105.)

**Rule 4.** The (league officials / board of directors/ membership) will adopt an awards list within the first five weeks of league play. All league awards will be awarded on a (handicap/ scratch) basis. A member is eligible to receive only one individual league recognition award, provided they have bowled 2/3 of the league’s scheduled games.





**Rule 5.** Bowlers will establish their league average in their first league session. (Refer to USBC Rule 108c. A bowler using a two-hand delivery will establish an average with two hands. When the bowler changes to a one-hand delivery, they must establish an average using that hand.)

**Rule 6.** The league will determine wins and losses on a (handicap/scratch) basis. Handicap will be 100% of the difference between a bowler's average and a scratch figure of \_\_\_\_\_. (Refer to USBC Rule 100d, Item 2-b.)

**Rule 7.** The league will be certified through USBC. Youth membership fees must be paid before completion of the bowler's third session of competition. The USBC Membership fee required to participate in the league is \$\_\_\_\_\_. (Refer to USBC Rule 101, Item b2.)

**Rule 8.** Any USBC youth member not scheduled to bowl with his/her own team may substitute on any other team in the league or for average and USBC awards only. (Refer to USBC Rule 110c.)  
No one may bowl with more than one team for the regularly scheduled games each week.

**Rule 9.** The minimum legal lineup of \_\_\_\_ players must be present before the completion of the first frame of each game. Regular members and substitutes count toward a legal lineup. (Refer to USBC Rule 111a for minimum legal lineup provision.)

**Rule 10.** When bowling in a known forfeit situation or scheduled against a non-existent team, the team must bowl at least the team average less 10 pins per player to earn the points. (Refer to USBC Rule 119c, Item 2 and 109d.)

**Rule 11.** Absentee and vacancy scores will be allowed when a team has a legal lineup, but less than a full lineup at the start of any game in a series. The absentee score will be the absent member's average minus 10 pins. (Unless otherwise provided by league rule.) Handicap will be figured on the average of absent member. Teams having an incomplete roster (vacancy on the team) will use the average of the lowest average bowler on the opposing team's roster. If two vacancy scores are required, the average of the next-to-the-lowest-average bowler on the opposing team's roster is used for the second vacancy score. These averages are the basis for the handicap. (Refer to USBC Rule 112, Items d, 2a and, 2b.)

**Rule 12.** All league games must be bowled as scheduled except when they are postponed or pre-bowled by authorization of the league supervisor, unless authority is granted by an appointed committee or the league official. (Refer to USBC Rule 117d, Item 2.)

The league supervisor/ official/ committee must grant a postponement when a team is unable to field a legal lineup due to reasons beyond its control.

Team and individual unopposed bowling is/ is not allowed and scores are recognized for league awards. (Refer to USBC Rule 117e, Item 7.)

**Rule 13.** A bowler who arrives late may enter the game provided \_\_\_\_ frames have not been completed. In this situation frames missed may be made up. (Refer to USBC Rule 111c.)

**Rule 14.** Team position standings shall be determined on a point basis, with \_\_\_\_\_ point(s) awarded for each game won and \_\_\_\_\_ point(s) awarded for the high team series in each match.

If all teams in the league have not bowled an equal amount of games, position standings are figured using a percentage basis.





**Rule 15.** A league member may not finish any game of a series before his/ her teammates or opponents, except in cases of an emergency or being prearranged based on a good cause. The league supervisor/ official will make the determination. Such scores will count in deciding the game and bowler's average, and for qualifying for USBC Youth awards and league awards.

**Rule 16.** A playoff will be conducted when there is a tie for first place. Scores bowled in a playoff shall not count toward individual or team averages or special prizes offered by the league.

**Rule 17. (Optional).** At the end of each segment, a first place winner will be named and the wins and losses will start over; however, the averages for all bowlers will be continued.

The first place winners of each segment will bowl in a playoff to decide the league champion.

**OPTION:** Halves: If the same team wins both halves, it shall be named the champion. When trophies are awarded for second place, the two second place teams will bowl a playoff to decide the runner-up position.

**OPTION:** Thirds: If the same team wins each third, it shall be named the champion. When trophies are awarded for second place, the second place teams will bowl a playoff to decide the runner-up. If the same team wins two of the thirds and loses the playoff, another playoff shall be bowled to decide the champion.

