



# Adding/Dropping Teams

In a perfect world, each league would be full prior to the league beginning with a waiting list of teams wanting to join. In this perfect world, no teams would withdraw either.

Unfortunately, some leagues do not enjoy these types of conditions. This document will provide a short guide of what the league needs to do if they are to add or drop team(s) after the schedule begins.

The first thing to keep in mind when the league adds or loses a team is the league schedule must be based on the number of teams in the league. Another way to view this is the league cannot have more than one nonexistent team at any point.

## Adding Teams

When adding teams during the season, the league board of directors needs to decide, by majority vote, what to do about the missed weeks.

When adding a team creates an even number of teams, there are two recommended options for the league's board of directors to choose from.

1. Allow the team to make up the games and the scores are compared to the team which bowled the nonexistent team to determine wins and losses.
2. Not allow the team to make up the games and the standings will be determined on a percentage basis.

When adding a team creates an odd number of teams, the league's board of directors has three recommended options.

1. Allow the team to make up the games by earning points. The team must bowl at least the team average less ten pins per player.
2. Allow the team to make up the games by utilizing the draw system. In this option, the team bowling the nonexistent team draws another team in the league and their scores are compared with that team to earn points. This will not affect the drawn team's wins and losses.
3. Not allow the team to make up the games and the standings will be determined on a percentage basis.

Adding a new team which creates an odd number of teams will also increase the schedule by two teams. This change is made as of the date the team is added. For example: If the league started with 20 teams and added a team in week three, the league begins using a 22 team schedule in week three.

### **1. Does the new team make up the games for weeks missed?**

USBC recommends games be made up when a team is added early in the season. However, should the board choose not to allow the games to be made up, USBC recommends the standings be determined on a percentage basis.

### **2. How are wins and losses determined for the new team if games are made up?**

When the addition of a team creates an even number of teams, the new team's scores for the weeks missed are compared to the team which bowled the nonexistent team to determine wins and losses.



If the additional team creates an uneven number of teams, the new team must earn points for all weeks missed by earning points. The team must bowl at least the team average less ten pins per player.

3. **Can the league use the draw or bye system if an uneven number of teams is created by adding a new team?**

Yes. The league board by majority vote prior to the team bowling in the league may vote to use the draw system for earning points. However, if the league does not vote on this prior to the team bowling, the team must earn points by bowling team average less ten pins per player.

**NOTE:** The team bowling the nonexistent team draws another team in the league and their scores are compared with that team to earn points. This will not affect the drawn team's wins and losses.

## Dropping teams

If a team chooses to withdraw from the league midseason, the team must give a two-week notice to a league officer. If the league bowls during this time frame, the withdrawing team is eligible to compete and therefore, the team should not be removed from the standings until this timeframe is up. If the team does not show, field a legal lineup, or does not complete a prebowl, the games are forfeited.

Losing a team which creates an even number of teams will decrease the schedule by two teams. The change is made after the withdrawal period expires. For example: If the league started with 21 teams and a team gave notice before week 17, the league begins using a 20 team schedule in week 19.

1. **Can the league use the draw or bye system if an uneven number of teams is created by losing a team?**

The league board of directors, by majority vote, adopts the draw system or the bye system before the league bowls using the new schedule. However, if the league does not vote on this prior to the team bowling, the team must earn points by bowling team average less ten pins per player.

**NOTE:** The team bowling the nonexistent team draws another team in the league and their scores are compared with that team to earn points. This will not affect the drawn team's wins and losses.