



## 2022 USBC Senior Championships Rules

\*All rules for the 2022 USBC Senior Championships 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. 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, 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.

The USBC Senior Championships is a handicap singles tournament consisting of two separate divisions. Handicap for each division is 90% of 220.

- Mixed Division - men and women
- Women's Division - women only

The tournament consists of six age classifications within each division:

50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75+

- Each USBC state and Canadian Tenpin Federation provincial association will be permitted to send a maximum of six Mixed Division participants and six Women's Division participants, one in each age classification.
- Female participants will have to determine which division they want to enter at the state level. They may qualify only in that division.
- If a USBC state and CTF provincial senior tournament is not set up to include the six age classifications but would like to send six representatives to the USBC Senior Championships, they must compile a separate record of the standings in each of the six age classifications in order to qualify the top bowler in each age category.

### **AGE / ELIGIBILITY**

- Age classification for the USBC Senior Championships will be determined based on the participant's age in the state/provincial competition. States may NOT send more than one entrant per age classification at the national event.
- All bowlers will compete in the age division in which they qualified, regardless of age when the 2022 Senior Championships takes place.
- Bowlers will not be permitted to bowl down in an age classification regardless of how they qualified in their state qualifier.
- All participants must have a current USBC Adult membership.
- If current membership cannot be verified, a USBC associate membership must be purchased at the tournament site at a cost of \$25.00.
- Bowlers must have been at least 50 years of age at the time of participation in their respective certified state or provincial tournament.
- Competitors must have bowled a minimum of six games at their state/provincial senior tournament.



- Competitors must be the handicap all-events winner in their respective age classification and division (Mixed or Women's). Exception to this requirement is as follows: If the winner is unable to attend, the state/provincial association can contact the next-place finisher, and go down as far as necessary in order of finish, to find a participant in the age classification. The entry fee from the original bowler is transferable to the replacement.

Each USBC state and CTF provincial association should have a tournament rule regarding ties for a championship. For example, "If a tie exists for first place within an age classification, co-champions will be declared. For purposes of determining who will be eligible for the USBC Senior Championships, the bowler with the highest game, with handicap will advance. If a tie still exists, the second-highest game, with handicap, will be used, etc."

### **AVERAGE REQUIREMENTS**

The average to be used will be determined in the following order:

A. Highest book average from 2019-20 or 2020-21 USBC/CTF winter, summer, or composite based on 21 or more games.

B. If no 2019-20 or 2020-21 USBC/CTF winter, summer, or composite average, the highest USBC/CTF winter season average as Aug. 1, 2022, based on 21 or more games.

C. When a bowler's current 21 game average as of Aug. 1, 2022, is 10 or more pins higher than the previous season's average, that average must be used. (USBC Rule 319a - 2)

- Bowlers who have both a USBC SPORT OR CHALLENGE LEAGUE average and STANDARD average from the same season shall use the higher of their Sport or Challenge average (unadjusted) and standard league average.
- Any bowler who has only a USBC SPORT OR CHALLENGE average must use the adjusted Sport or Challenge average utilizing the USBC Average Adjustment Scale.

D. Bowlers who do not meet any of the above requirements will be entered with a 220 average.

- Failure to use the correct average shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than correct average, thereby resulting in a higher handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the correct average. However, corrections in averages may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series.
- All entrants who have qualified for \$300 or more in any tournament event; \$500 or more in any one tournament; or \$1,000 or more in all tournaments during the 12 months prior to participation, must attach a report with the entry form showing actual score bowled and the amount of money won in each case. (USBC Rule 319d)
- Bowlers shall adjust their entering averages, and shall submit the adjusted average to the tournament manager, if during the 12-month period immediately preceding the date and time of bowling, the bowler's accumulated average for all, but not less than 21 tournament games, exceeds such entering average by 15 or more pins. (USBC Rule 319e)
- All entrants must report any re-rate or adjustments to averages from any other tournament or event prior to participation.
- Failure to report prize winnings (Rule 319d), submit adjusted average under USBC Rule 319e or report any re-rates, shall be cause for disqualification. Nothing in USBC



Rule 319e will be deemed to supersede the authority of tournament management to adjust a bowler's average upward prior to bowling. For purposes of average adjustment, tournament management will use guidelines including, but not limited to, USBC averages, previous tournament winnings and any records of bowler performance from league(s) and/or tournament(s).

- A bowler's average may be adjusted upward before participation in any event. If the assigned average is not accepted by the bowler, the entry fee shall be refunded (Rule 319c).
- Bowlers are responsible for seeing that their averages are verified before competition begins.

## **BOWLING EQUIPMENT**

Every bowler must have his/her own bowling ball and bowling shoes.

### **Bowling Balls**

- Each entrant will be allowed a maximum of six bowling balls.
- All bowling balls must meet all USBC specifications.
- 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.
- Random bowling ball checking may be done by tournament management.
- Any bowler may request to have his/her bowling balls checked prior to competition.
- The surface of the bowling ball may be altered or cleaned until the start of competition (first ball for score).
- After the bowler begins competition, the outer surface of the ball may only be cleaned with a dry towel.

### **Powder/Rosin**

- No substance, including talcum powder or EZ Slide, can be applied to a player's shoes.
- No substance may be placed on the outer surface of the bowling ball once competition begins.

## **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.

### **Bowling Out of Turn**



- Bowling out of turn is a dead ball situation (USBC Rule 9)

#### 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.

### **DEADLINES**

May 21, 2022 (entry deadline)

- State associations to submit their "State's Official Entry Form" and entry fees.

June 14, 2022 (shirt order deadline)

- Players to submit shirt order forms (if not ordered by state/provincial).

### **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 restarting 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

### **DRESS CODE**

Entrants are expected to wear suitable attire. Examples of prohibited attire include but are not limited to:

- Hats (medical reasons only)
- Tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, spaghetti strap tops, etc.



- Workout attire, short skirts, jeans that are not neat, clean or in good condition
- Shorts are allowed during competition. Athletic, jean, or cargo shorts are not allowed.

Bowlers will be required to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by tournament management or designee. Tournament management or designee decision will be final.

### **FOOD, DRINK & SMOKING**

Outside food will NOT be permitted in the bowling center. Hard candy, mints and gum are allowed. This includes from the start of practice to the last ball thrown for score on each squad.

- Bowlers with a medical condition who must eat more than what is mentioned above during competition should notify the tournament office prior to bowling.
- Failure to comply may result in disqualification.

### **ENTRY FEES**

- \$140 per participant.
- If the state/provincial association is unable to pay the entry fees, participants must be advised that they are still eligible to participate in the Senior Championships at their own expense.
- All prize fees collected in each age classification in each division will be returned 100% to participants in those divisions.
- Additional fees will be added 100% to the prize fund for those respective divisions.

Entry fee breakdown: At least one for every three entries, per division and age classification.

Prize fee: \$100

Expense fee: \$40

Total entry fee: \$140

### **FORMAT**

- Participants only compete with those in their own age division.
- All participants will bowl two three-game qualifying blocks.
- If a tie exists for sixth place after six games of qualifying, there will be a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off to determine who advances to the advancers round. Should a tie still exist, an additional ninth and 10th frame will be bowled. This procedure will continue until the tie is broken.
- The top six scores with handicap in each division/age category will advance to the advancers round and will bowl three more games to determine the champions. Qualifying scores will not be carried into the advancers round.
- Bonus pins will be awarded to the six qualifiers based on qualifying position: 50 pins for first, 40 pins for second, 30 pins for third, 20 pins for fourth, 10 pins for fifth, and 0 pins for sixth. Bonus pins will be added to the three-game total during the advancers round.
- If a tie exists after the advancers round for first, second, or third place, there will be a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off to determine that position. Should a tie still exist, an additional 9th and 10th frame will be bowled. This procedure will continue until the tie is broken.



- Twelve champions will be declared, one in each of the six age classifications in the Mixed Division and Women's Division.

### **GAMBLING**

All forms of gambling are prohibited while bowling. This includes but is not limited to card playing, pushing coins, etc.

### **LATE ARRIVAL**

Any participant arriving late for the qualifying blocks will begin play in the frame then being bowled. A bowler will not be credited with any pins for frames missed.

### **PRIZE CHECKS AND AWARDS**

- The IRS requires USBC to furnish 1099 forms to individuals who accumulate winnings of \$600 or more annually in any USBC events in which they participate.
- Failure to furnish a Social Security number (U.S. citizens) or ITIN (non-U.S. citizens) to USBC at check-in will result in a 30% tax reduction of the prize check.
- Prize checks will be direct deposited within 30 days after the conclusion of the tournament (USBC Rule 309) unless permission is granted to extend by USBC tournament certification.
- In the event of a tie in any division, prize money will be equally divided.
- All winners' averages are subject to further verification by USBC tournament management.
- Awards will be presented for the top six places in each division.

### **SCORING ERRORS**

Any claims for errors in scoring or calculation must be filed with the tournament management no later than 15 minutes after completion of the block.

\*The USBC tournament management has the authority to make decisions regarding anything not covered by these rules.



## **TERMINATION CLAUSE**

To the Executive Director of the United States Bowling Congress: I hereby make application to participate in the USBC Senior Championships events listed and tender the entry fees required therefore. I warrant that I am a USBC member. I agree to abide by all tournament and playing rules and regulations prescribed by USBC, including all provisions set forth on this form. I specifically agree for myself and any replacement chosen for me that if I am not eligible for participation and/or cannot bowl in the USBC Senior Championships, 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 their authorized replacements hereby agree 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 by me or 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 USBC Senior Championships, absent willful or gross negligence on the part of USBC.

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