



2022 USBC Team USA Trials/US Amateur Championship Tournament Rules

***All rules for the 2022 USBC Team USA Trials/US Amateur Championship are subject to change due to concerns with COVID-19. This includes but is not limited to tournament 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, 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^o, 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, they may not compete until a negative result has been received.

Eligibility

- All participants must be USBC members in good standing.
- All participants must be no less than 16 years of age as of the first day of competition.
- Participants must be US citizens and eligible to compete on Team USA in accordance with Olympic Charter - Rule 41: Nationality of Competitors.
- To qualify for Junior Team USA 2022 participants must be 20 or younger as of January 1, 2022.
- All competitors 18 years of age or older as of January 8, 2022, will be required to be current with SafeSport training.

USBC Team USA Qualifying

- 2022 Team USA will consist of at least 12 men and 12 women from the 2022 Team USA Trials/US Amateur Championship.
- Only athletes 18 years of age or older as of January 8, 2022, will be eligible to make 2022 Team USA.
- The top four (4) age eligible men and top four (4) age eligible women finishers in the 2022 USBC Team USA Trials, based on ranking points, will earn automatic spots on 2022 Team USA, while two (2) additional men and two additional women will be selected from the pool of players that compete at the 2022 Team USA Trials by the National Selection Committee (NSC). The US Amateur Champions will also earn a spot on 2022 Team USA. If the champions have already earned a spot, it will be awarded to the next highest qualifier based on ranking points.
- The National Selection Committee has the authority to add members to the team at their discretion.

USBC Junior Team USA Qualifying

- 2022 Junior Team USA will consist of all those who qualified from the 2021 Junior Gold Championships. (12 boys and 12 girls), and six (6) additional boys and six (6) additional girls from the 2022 Team USA Trials/US Amateur Championship.
- The top four (4) age eligible boys and top four (4) age eligible girls in the 2022 Team USA Trials, based on ranking points, will earn automatic spots on 2022 Junior Team USA, while two (2) additional boys and two (2) additional girls will be selected by the National Selection Committee from the 2022 Team USA Trials/US Amateur Championship.
- The National Selection Committee has the authority to add members to the team at their discretion.

2022 Tournament Entries

- Entry Fee is \$350.00 USD
- Entries will be limited to the first paid 175 males and 175 females.
- Those 18 years of age or older as of January 8, 2022, will be required to be current with SafeSport training to complete their registration.
- The members of 2021 Men's and Women's Team USA qualify for a free tournament entry into the 2022 USBC Team USA Trials/US Amateur Championship.

General Rules

- This tournament is USBC certified.
- All individuals allowed in the bowling center will receive a credential that must always be worn.

Bowling Equipment

- Bowling balls must meet all USBC requirements for surface hardness, weight, balance, size & number of holes. Bowling ball regulations for professional organizations DO NOT apply.
- Only bowling balls listed on the USBC Ball Approval list may be used.
<http://bowl.com/approvedballlist/>
- Any bowler concerned with their equipment should have it checked in the pro shop and/or with a tournament official before competition begins.
- Bowling ball surface adjustments by hand are acceptable between games provided they are done by the athlete only, in the designated area, and the adjustment procedure does not delay the bowler's next turn. Altering the surface of the bowling ball during a game is not allowed. If the surface is adjusted during a game the penalty is zero pin fall in that game.
- No substance, including, but not limited to, talcum powder and EZ Slide, can be applied to the bottom of a player's shoes.

Dead Ball Situations

- Bowling on the wrong lane constitutes a potential dead ball situation, provided it is protested before the offending competitor (or their opponent in match play) bowls again. If a competitor rolls a strike on the wrong lane, they must re-bowl on the correct lane. If the competitor does not strike, their pin count will stand, and they must shoot the spare on the same lane.
- Bowling out of turn constitutes a potential dead ball situation, provided it is protested before the offending competitor (or their opponent in match play) bowls again. If a competitor rolls a strike out of turn, they must bowl again in the correct order of play. If the competitor does not strike, their pin count will stand, and they must shoot the spare.
- If a pin is on the lane or in the channel, the dead wood must be removed before the competitor delivers the ball. If a ball is delivered with dead wood on the lane or in the channel and the ball contacts such dead wood before leaving the lane surface, a dead ball is declared. A competitor must consult the competitors on their 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 the pin is in play, and the ball contacts the dead wood before leaving the lane surface, they will receive zero for the shot. If a competitor attempts a spare conversion while the pin is in play and any other pin, after contacting the dead wood, knocks down one or more pins, they will receive zero for the shot.
- A competitor must re-bowl the frame if it is determined that any pins were missing from the rack at which they shot.

Dress Code

- All bowlers must wear suitable attire. Name shirts are not required but are suggested for our National Selection Committee. Each athlete must wear a collared shirt during competition.

- Mock neck shirts will be permitted along with Athletic style shirts. Sleeves must be worn. No jeans of any color will be allowed at any time, including practice.
- Dress slacks for men and skirts, skorts, dress shorts or dress slacks for women are acceptable. Skirts, skorts and shorts must be longer than fingertip length when standing with arms down at your sides. Any bowler not in compliance with the dress code will not be allowed to bowl until the issue is resolved. Please check with a tournament official before the start of each block if you have questions regarding your attire.
- All bowlers will be credentialed which must be worn when not competing and to enter the venue. Dress code is in effect at all times while a competitor is in the venue.

Eating, Drinking, Smoking

- Athletes must not smoke, consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while in competition, i.e., during the entire period of a block of games. In those instances where it is established that a player is in breach of this rule, they may be suspended from the tournament by the Tournament Director for that block of games.
- Non-alcoholic beverages are allowed provided they are not consumed in the players' area. Any food or drink must be kept behind the settee during competition.

Format

- All bowling in on a scratch basis
- There are separate divisions for men and women.
- Number of bowlers per pair and total squad size shall be based on state and local regulations regarding allowable occupancy. Seating will be reviewed at each venue and based on number of bowlers per pair, and seating may be removed or roped off, so bowlers can maintain social distancing.
- Bowlers will receive 10 minutes of practice prior to the beginning of each qualifying block.
- Competition will consist of five blocks of qualifying with six games in each block. Each block will be contested on a different sport compliant lane-condition.
- Participants will receive ranking points based on finish position for each block. (Example: bowler finished 2nd in first block, 2 points earned.) Total ranking points will be determined after completion of all five blocks. The lowest number of points will determine first position overall, the next lowest is second...etc.
- All ties will be broken by total pin fall. If bowlers are still tied and it is critical to break the tie, a one ball roll off will break the tie. The time and place of the roll off will be determined by the Tournament Committee.
- A bowler arriving late will begin play and their score will be counted only from the frame then being bowled. A player not present and ready to bowl when it is their turn will not be credited for any pins for the frames missed.
- No substitutes will be permitted; however, pacers may be scheduled at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director.

Lane Courtesy

- This tournament will use One-Pair Courtesy. The pair of lanes to a player's right and left must be empty before a player takes their position on the approach for a delivery. Alternating pairs of lanes across the house should have one player on the approach preparing to make their delivery. A player on each of the other lanes should be at the ball return preparing for their turn as soon as those on the approach make their delivery.
- Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery if the pair of lanes immediately adjacent to them on both the right and left is clear. If a player does not observe the procedure outlined above, it may be construed as slow bowling. A player failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows:
 - White card for the first offense (no penalty).
 - Blue card for the second offense (no penalty).
 - Red card for the third and each succeeding offense in any block of games, the game is forfeited).

To enforce this rule, a tournament official will monitor the participants to ensure no pair(s) of lanes get too far behind. Whenever there is any question concerning the enforcement of this rule, or lack thereof, the final decision shall be made by the Tournament Management Committee.

US Amateur Championship Stepladder Finals

- The top three amateur bowlers after qualifying, (as determined by ranking points) will participate in the stepladder format. A "Pro" is defined as anyone who currently holds a professional card (PBA/PWBA), has held one in the preceding calendar year or who has ever won a professional title as a member (National, Regional or Senior).
- Stepladders will take place on one pair of lanes for the women and one pair of lanes for the men. The pairs of lanes will be chosen by the Tournament Committee. All stepladder final matches will have both players bowl one game on the pair of lanes
- The top seeds (male & female) from qualifying will each choose a lane oiling pattern from the five previous qualifying patterns, and it will be applied to the pair of lanes. The second seeds (male & female), from qualifying will also choose a lane oiling pattern from the five previous qualifying patterns and it will be applied to the pair of lanes.
- The first stepladder matches will be the third qualifying seed vs. the second qualifying seed on the lane pattern choice of the second qualifier. The final stepladder matches will be the winner of the first stepladder match vs. the top qualifier on the lane pattern choice of the top qualifier.
- Any ties will be determined by a one ball roll off starting on the athletes' current (finish) lane with the top seed determining order. Subsequent ties will continue with a one ball roll off switching lanes between shots.
- There will be five minutes of practice on the stepladder lanes before each match and a warmup pair of lanes made available for the top qualifiers during the first stepladder matches.

- Players winning the step ladder finals will be declared the 2022 USBC United States Amateur Champion.

Locker Rooms

- Only tournament bowlers and USBC staff members are permitted to enter the locker room and use all equipment. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Security – The locker room will be locked one (1) hour after the end of competition for each squad each day and opened one (1) hour prior to the start of each squad for 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/or any electronic device of any kind. A player failing to observe this policy shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows:
 - White card for the first offense (device confiscated until end of round).
 - Blue card for the second offense (device confiscated until end of round).
 - Red card for the third offense (disqualification).

Personnel in Bowlers' Area

- Only tournament competitors, USBC staff and tournament volunteers are permitted in the bowlers' area during competition.

Practice Sessions

- There are no lane assignments for the practice sessions. Bowlers are free to move around the venue.

Prize Money and Awards

- Daily prize money or applicable scholarship will be awarded to the top 4 males and top 4 females based on total pins in each separate round of qualifying. All scholarship money will be distributed to the athlete's SMART account per USBC rules. If the Athlete declines the money earned, the next person based on score for that round will earn that daily prize money.
 - 1st place - \$500
 - 2nd place - \$350
 - 3rd place - \$200
 - 4th place - \$100
- First and second place finishers, based on ranking points after qualifying is complete, will be eligible for an optional insurance package provided by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC).
- All individuals who hold a USBC Youth membership must complete USBC's Consent Form prior to participation. Failure to do so may impact your USBC Youth eligibility.

Protests and Appeals

- Protests involving eligibility, scores, or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to the Tournament Director by the beginning of the tournaments next round or, in the case of the final round, by completion of the tournaments closing ceremonies.
- Complaints concerning approach conditions or other equipment must be brought to the attention of the tournament director. An inspection will be made and then, 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 of penalties must be filed with the USBC Rules department immediately upon receipt of notice.
- Decision of USBC Rules department is final.

Refund Policy

- A refund will be given:
 - less \$50 cancellation fee, if written notice is received 45 days prior to first day of qualifying.
 - less a \$100 cancellation fee, if written notice is received four days prior to first day of qualifying.
- No refund will be given:
 - if written notice is received after four days prior to the start of qualifying.
 - to individuals who have won spots as 2021 Team USA Members.

Re-Racks

- Two re-racks per game will be allowed. Any other requests need the permission of a Tournament Official.

Scoresheet

- Each bowler is responsible for verification of their own scores. Any scoring corrections must be made prior to signing the recap forms. Questionable errors will be resolved by tournament management or, upon appeal, by the Tournament Director.

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.

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.