

2022 U.S. Open Rules

***All rules for the 2022 U.S. Open 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^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.

All athletes 18 years of age and older as of the last day of U.S. Open competition, who are competing in either the PTQ or U.S. Open, must be current on their SafeSport training.

The 2022 U.S. Open is USBC-certified. The game of American tenpins will be played.

This is a scratch singles tournament with qualifying rounds, round-robin 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.
- Plugged bowling balls are allowed.
- Random bowling ball checking may be done as deemed necessary by tournament management.



- Any bowler may request to have their bowling balls checked prior to competition.
- Prior to being introduced into play, all bowling balls must be on the list of USBC-approved balls posted on BOWL.com.
- If a competitor uses a bowling ball not on the list of USBC-approved balls, or one that does not meet USBC specification, 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.

Rosin

- Once competition begins, the outer surface of the ball may be cleaned with a dry towel only.

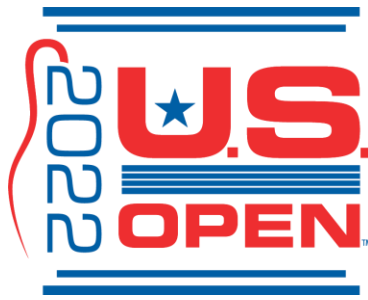
NOTE: The tournament director may allow a player to remove foreign substances from the bowling ball surface with authorized cleaners on a case-by-case basis.

Use of Abrasives on Ball Surface or Other Modification

- Once competition begins, no abrasives, cleaners or polishes may be used on equipment. The use of abrasives, cleaners or polishes is permitted on the practice pairs, but NEVER while on competition pairs, including during match play. 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 on the competition pairs, the player will be fined \$250.
 - If an abrasive, cleaner or polish is used, player is fined \$250, and ball is removed from play for 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

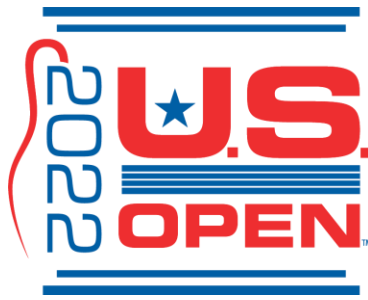
- Bowling ball checks may be done as deemed necessary by the tournament director. A competitor is subject to disqualification and forfeiture of all points and prize money earned from the tournament if any bowling ball recorded on the competitor's scoring recap or ball card:
 1. Cannot be produced within thirty (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 a bowling ball used by another competitor does not meet specifications, or was tampered with, they must inform the tournament director in writing. The 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.

Bowling Ball Registration for Balls Used in Competition

- Bowlers will be allowed a maximum of 10 bowling balls on the Bowler's Equipment Registration Form. Only these 10 balls are permitted in the center or in the locker room during competition. **No changes to the form are permitted once A Squad roll call begins.**
- Bowling balls must be presented for verification by tournament staff when Bowler's Equipment Registration Form is turned in.
- Adjustments to the form are permitted as described below.
 - All ball cards for all tournament entrants are due to tournament staff by A Squad roll call, no exceptions.
 - After Day 3, the Bowler's Equipment Registration Form can be adjusted, while maintaining the 10-ball maximum.
 - After the cut to the TV stepladder finals, the Bowler's Equipment Registration Form can be adjusted, while maintaining the 10-ball maximum.
- Penalties
 - If not turned in prior to A Squad roll call – **Disqualification.**
- Once a ball card is submitted, no alterations affecting the weight or balance of ball may be made.



- Penalty: \$250 fine plus the following: If the ball is not thrown, it will be removed from competition. If the ball is thrown, the player will be disqualified (including the warm-up session).
- Hole adjustments are permitted at the discretion of tournament management. However, the ball must be taken to the warm-up lanes or locker room, and a tournament official must be notified prior to any adjustments.
- For all balls drilled after the official practice day, all ball information must be completed. Once ball is picked up, tournament official must be notified, and ball card updated appropriately prior to placing the ball in play.

Errors on Card

If ball is marked incorrectly on a player's card, and this is brought to tournament official's attention, player will be fined \$25, and the ball will be removed from play. The ball may be brought back into play in next round of competition.

If ball is used in competition and meets all USBC specifications, player is fined \$250 and ball is removed from play. The ball may be brought back into play in next round of competition.

If the ball has been used in competition and does not meet all USBC specifications, player is fined \$250 and is disqualified.

Gripping Orientation

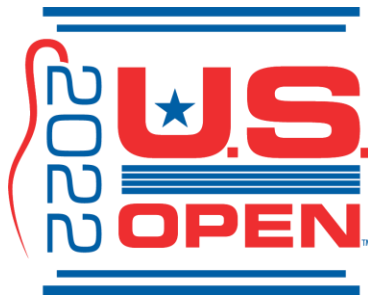
A "Wi-Fit" or "Duo" grip bowling ball cannot be used in USBC competition because the hole not used would be deemed as a weight hole, and per USBC specifications, no weight holes are allowed.

Damaged Equipment

- In the event a player's bowling ball is damaged during tournament play in such a fashion that it will not meet USBC specifications, the player must notify the tournament director, and the ball must be taken out of play immediately. Tournament staff will determine if the participant can replace the ball on the ball card or if it can be repaired.

SPECTATORS & COMPETITOR 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 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 (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) 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

CRITERIA FOR ENTRY

Bowlers may qualify for entry in the 2022 U. S. Open based on the following criteria, in the following, order:

- U.S. Open winners, last 10 years
- USBC Masters winners, last three years
- PBA World Championship winners, last three years
- PBA Tournament of Champions winners, last three years
- PBA Players Championship winners, last three years
- USBC Open Championships Regular All-Events winners, last three years
- 2021 USBC Senior Masters winner
- 2021 PBA Senior U.S. Open winner
- 2021 Junior Gold U20 Boys winner
- Intercollegiate Singles Championships Men's winner, last two years



- 2021 U.S. Open, top five finishers
- Top 75 on the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) Tour points list, as of Oct. 1, 2021
- 2021 Team USA (men) and Junior Team USA (boys) members
- 2021 U.S. Amateur, top three men's finishers
- Winner of each (up to 10) U.S. Open regional qualifier
- BPAA exemption
- Remainder of field will be filled through an on-site pre-tournament qualifier

*For instances where events were not held in 2020 and or 2021 due to COVID-19, those spots will be filled through the PTQ.

Bowlers who do not pay their entry fees by Dec. 27, 2021, will lose their spots in the field, and the spot will be awarded to the PTQ.

Any bowler not receiving an invitation wishing to compete in the U.S. Open must enter the PTQ (see information under format). PTQ field size is determined by lane availability.

DEAD-BALL SITUATIONS

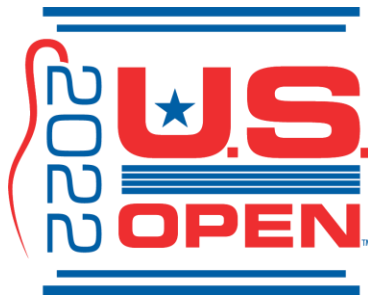
- The tournament director must be called and will make all decisions regarding dead ball situations.

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 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 out of turn, he or she must bowl again in the correct order of play.



- If the competitor does not strike, his or her pin count will stand, and he or she must shoot the spare.
- 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

- A competitor must re-bowl the frame if it is determined that any pins were missing from the rack at which he or she shot.

DELAYS AND MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS

- If a delay or mechanical breakdown of 10 minutes or longer occurs during competition, tournament management, at its discretion, 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 will 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 at all times while a competitor is in the venue. *Name shirt only required during practice, warmup 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, ironed on or sublimated.
- Men must wear dress slacks.
- Women may wear dress slacks, shorts, skirts or skorts. Length of skirt, skorts or shorts must be below the bowler's fingertips when she is standing, and her arms are hanging down at her side. 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 logos are permitted on apparel during USBC competition as long as they do not exceed 9 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 as long as they do not exceed 9 square inches.

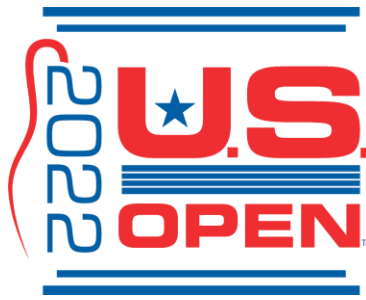
Exception: If there is a televised portion of the event, and that portion is produced by PBA, then PBA logo rules will apply to the televised portion of the tournament.

Practice Session & 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 competing in this event. This includes from the start of an individual's warm-up session to the last ball thrown for score in qualifying, match play and finals.
- 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 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.
- All participants 18 years of age or older as of the last day of competition will be required to be current with SafeSport training to complete their registration.
- Participants that have not reached their 18th birthday by the first official day of competition must have a USBC Parental Consent Form (available on BOWL.com) on file with tournament management prior to the first day of competition.
- Participants who have not reached their 16th birthday by the first official day of competition must be a current member of Junior Team USA, PBA or PWBA or can petition tournament management for acceptance into the tournament. The petition must be submitted in writing to tournament management 30 days prior to the start of the tournament. Bowlers entering under these conditions must alert tournament staff upon submitting their entry.
- Youth Eligibility: Bowlers with USBC Youth memberships still can maintain their 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.



FEES

- Entry fee is \$500.
- There is a \$25 processing fee for all entries not done online.
- The prize ratio will be at least one (1) for every three (3) entrants. (1:3)
- See "Refund Policy" for additional information.

FORMAT

Pre-Tournament Qualifier

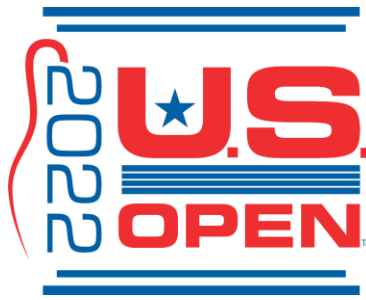
- The pre-tournament qualifier will feature one eight-game block with total pins determining finishing position and qualification into the U. S. Open.
- PTQ field size is determined by lane availability.
- Entry fee is \$500.
- Players not making the field for the U. S. Open will be returned half of their entry fee upon the completion of the qualifier.
- Each PTQ entry will count as half of a U. S. Open entry and will be added to the U. S. Open prize fund.
- Anyone planning on running a local qualifier/win-a-spot still can do so but would be buying a spot into the on-site qualifier, not directly into the U.S. Open. The cost to enter the qualifier is \$500 and should be done early, as spots are limited. Proprietor or tournament operator then must call U.S. Open staff to change entry to winner's name. If the bowler does not advance to the U.S. Open field, \$250 would be refunded.

Alternates for qualifying

- The top five non-qualifiers from the PTQ become alternates for entry into the U. S. Open. Alternates must complete ball cards and turn them in prior to A Squad roll call on the first day of competition.
- Alternates may participate in official practice sessions.
- Alternates must be present at roll call for each squad
- In case of a withdrawal or no-show, alternates will be placed into competition based on order of finish

Qualifying

- Each entrant will bowl three blocks of eight games each.
 - 12 pairs of lanes will be used for competition, with no more than three bowlers on a pair.
 - A minimum of three pairs of lanes not used for competition will be available for warm-up prior to each squad.
 - Each bowler's 24-game total will be used to determine qualifiers for the fourth round of qualifying.



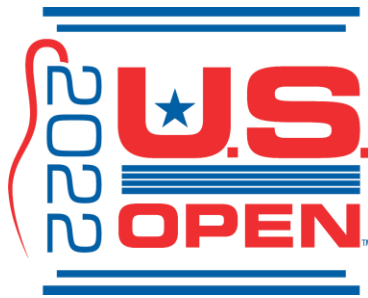
- After eight more games of qualifying, total pinfall for 32 games will be used to determine the top 24 bowlers.
- The top 24 bowlers will advance to round-robin match play.
- A bowler arriving late will begin play, and his/her score will count beginning with the frame then being bowled.

Match Play

- Bowlers making the 24-person match-play field will bowl 24 one-game matches.
- Each bowler will bowl every other bowler in the field once, with the final match being a position round (i.e., first place bowls second, third bowls fourth, etc.).
- The winner of each match will receive 30 bonus pins in addition to their pinfall for the game.
- This pinfall is added to their total from qualifying, and a running total shall be kept.
- At the conclusion of match play, the top five bowlers according to pinfall, including bonus pins, will be seeded into a stepladder.

Alternate for Match Play

- Any competitor who qualifies for the match-play alternate position must inform the tournament director of the decision to accept or decline the position within 15 minutes of the official announcement.
 - Penalty: \$100
- In the case of a tie for the alternate position for match play, the competitor with the highest qualifying block score will be given the alternate position.
- If a competitor voluntarily declines to serve as alternate, he/she shall relinquish his/her alternate's fee and be replaced by the next available competitor based upon finish position.
- The alternate must be present for all roll calls.
- The alternate must be prepared to enter competition on short notice and shall remain in the host center throughout competition.
- Substitution Procedures – The alternate competitor may enter the tournament in place of a match-play finalist at the discretion of the tournament director in the case of injury, sickness or emergency, subject to the following procedures:
 - The alternate's scores shall be computed using his or her own qualifying total, plus the scratch match-play total of the competitor being replaced.
 - When an alternate enters competition, a new alternate shall be identified. The next-highest finisher in the host center will be offered the alternate position until it is filled. If a suitable replacement cannot be found, and a subsequent match-play withdraw occurs, the bowler remaining will bowl against a blind score equivalent to his/her qualifying average, less 10 pins.



- Both the alternate and the competitor being replaced shall receive an amount of prize money equal to one-half the sum designated for the final position of the alternate and that designated for the position of the alternate occupied prior to match play.
- Warm-up When Entering – The alternate will receive four (4) warm-up shots on a pair determined by the tournament director.

Stepladder Finals

- The stepladder finals will be a single-elimination format.
- Positions are determined by seed according to final pinfall total, including bonus pins, after round-robin match play.
- Positions No. 5 and No. 4 will bowl a one-game match, with that winner advancing to bowl against No. 3, and so on, until all bowlers have bowled.
- Oiling times and practice schedule for the stepladder will be determined and published at a later date.

LANE ASSIGNMENTS

- Lane assignments will be posted in the locker room.

LANE OIL PATTERN

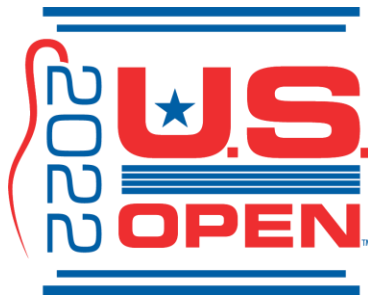
- Patterns will be posted at the tournament venue, no later than the start of each official practice session.
- Will be Sport-compliant.

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 locker room – Only bowling balls designated on a player’s equipment registration form for the current round of competition will be



permitted 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 10 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 phones, tablets, laptops, iPods and electronic devices of any kind. Penalties are per tournament.
 - First offense - \$250 and device confiscated until end of round.
 - Second offense - \$500 and device 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

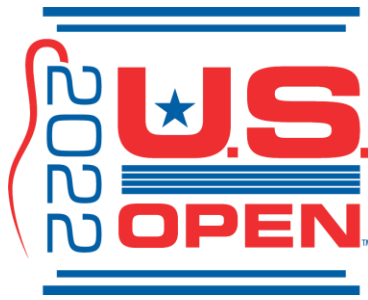
- Only tournament competitors, USBC staff and tournament volunteers are permitted in the bowlers' area during competition. Media personnel covering the event may be permitted into the bowlers' area on a case-by-case basis.

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 the previous squad has finished. Penalties will be assessed per tournament.
- First Offense: Warning; Subsequent Offenses: Conduct Violation and \$1,000

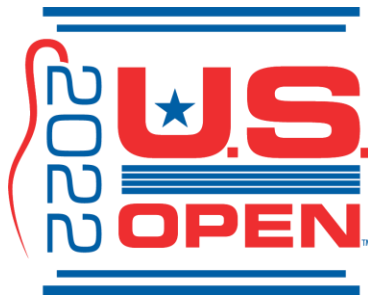


PRACTICE SESSIONS

- Official practice will consist of three sessions. The first three 90-minute sessions will be available to all bowlers. The first session will feature Pattern 1, the second session will feature Pattern 2, the third session will feature Pattern 3. There will be an additional practice session featuring Pattern 4 that will occur 30 minutes after the completion of qualifying Round 3, and it will last for one hour. Only competitors qualifying for Round 4 are eligible for this session.
- There are no lane assignments for the practice sessions. Bowlers are free to move around the venue.
- Prior to each squad, a minimum 20 minutes of warmup will be available for the upcoming squad on the designated practice pairs, separate from the competition pairs. These lanes will be designated by tournament management.
- Prior to each squad, and following pre-squad announcements, competitors will be permitted one ball on each of their starting lanes.

PRIZE MONEY AND AWARDS

- Participants who 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 which 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(s) 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 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. 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 of 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 to take two re-racks per game during qualifying and match play.
- Additional re-racks may be granted with tournament management's permission.



SCORESHEET

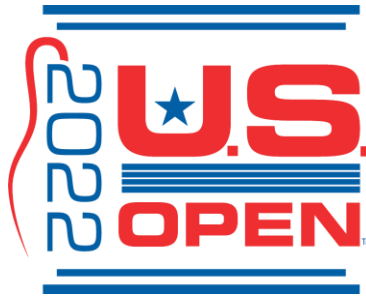
- Verifying and signing the scoresheet (qualifying). Competitors are responsible for verifying and signing both their own scoresheets as well as that of their competitor. Verification of information includes game scores, total pins, plus/minus totals and bowling balls used in competition. Penalty: \$25
- 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 bowler's responsibility to verify what squad they are on before the start of competition.
- Squad requests will not be accepted.

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

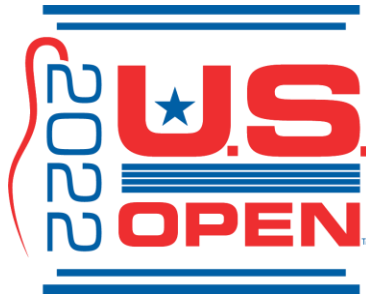
- If there is a tie for the final position into a cut (non-match play) round or needed to complete the field for match play, one complete game shall be bowled on a neutral pair, selected by the tournament director, following the final block of qualifying. The bowler with the highest qualifying block chooses the starting lane, and the bowler on the odd lane will start. Bowlers shall have 10 minutes of practice. 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 to break the tie, with each bowler starting on the lane where they finished the match. Should a tie exist after the first ball and/or subsequent balls, the bowlers will continue to switch lanes until the tie is broken. The bowler on the odd lane will start.
- In the event of a tie for any other position, ties shall be broken in the following order: A. Total pins of the last qualifying block bowled. B. Preceding qualifying block totals. C. High games from last block of qualifying.
- 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.

Match Play

- If a match ends in a tie, each bowler will be awarded 15 bonus pins.

Stepladder Finals

- If there is a tie among stepladder finalists that affects stepladder placement, all tied competitors will compete in a one-game roll-off. The competitor with the highest scratch total pins has choice of starting lane for the roll-off. If a tie exists for scratch total pins, a coin toss will be used to determine the starting lane.
- If the tie does not affect stepladder placement but does affect which competitor chooses the starting lane for the match, then a one-ball, sudden-death roll-off will be used to break the tie. The competitor with the highest scratch total pins has choice of starting lane for the roll-off. If a tie exists for scratch total pins, a coin toss will be used to determine the starting lane.



- If a match ends in a tie, competitors will compete in a one-ball sudden-death roll-off. The highest-seeded competitor shall determine the starting lane and position for the roll-off. 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 will be called 45 minutes prior to Round 1, Round 4 and prior to the first round of match play. Additional roll calls may be scheduled at the discretion of the tournament director. Players are considered tardy if they do not acknowledge their presence during roll call. The penalty for missing roll call is a \$25 fine.

TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT

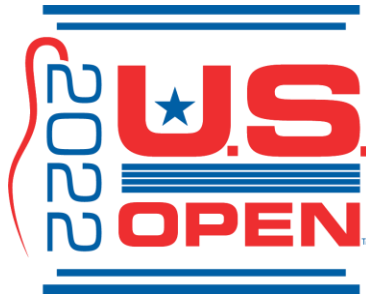
- Tournament management has the final authority to make interpretations of any tournament rules and make decisions regarding anything not covered in the rules.

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.