

## CLOSER LOOK

# DESIGNING WOMEN

The USBC Women's Championships will have a four-player team format and new divisions in 2014



**SINCE 1916.** THE USBC Women's Championships has provided countless memories for thousands of bowlers. Time and technology have changed the look of the event, but two things have remained consistent – competition and camaraderie.

Recent surveys of tournament participants indicate it is time for a few changes to the world's largest participatory sporting event for women. So when the Women's Championships returns to Reno, Nev., in 2014, there will be new

divisions and an exciting new format.

The highlights of the new look will be a change to four-player teams, from the traditional five, and a return to an all-scratch format. Many state and local tournaments have changed to the four-player team format in recent years, and following suit at the national level should make travel, rooming and doubles pairings easier for participants.

Moving to average-based divisions – four divisions for team competition, six divisions for doubles, singles and all-events – eliminates the

need for handicap and helps level the playing field by having participants compete against bowlers closer to their skill levels.

The 2014 Women's Championships, which will be contested on 44 specially-constructed lanes inside the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, also will have a new price structure. The entry fee for a bowler to compete in team, doubles, singles and all-events will be \$140 (\$44 per event and an optional \$8 for all-events). The total for a four-player team will be \$560, and that includes all processing

fees if the team captain enters online. Entering by mail, fax or phone will require an additional \$10 processing fee per team and \$10 for each doubles/singles set.

Registration for the 2014 Women's Championships will begin April 1, 2013. Spots will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis, and dates and times can be locked in as soon as a full payment is made.

## New Divisions

In addition to the move to four-player teams, the 2014 Women's Championships will feature new divisions (all scores will be scratch):

### TEAM

| Division | Team average  |
|----------|---------------|
| Diamond  | 725 and above |
| Ruby     | 650-724       |
| Emerald  | 575-649       |
| Sapphire | 574 and below |

### SINGLES AND DOUBLES

| Div. | Singles avg.  | Doubles avg.  |
|------|---------------|---------------|
| 1    | 190 and above | 380 and above |
| 2    | 175-189       | 350-379       |
| 3    | 160-174       | 320-349       |
| 4    | 145-159       | 290-319       |
| 5    | 130-144       | 260-289       |
| 6    | 129 and below | 259 and below |

**XBOWLING PARTNERSHIP**

# SMART WAY TO BOWL



pionships, the Intercollegiate Singles Championships, and the presenting sponsor of the North Pointe Junior Gold Survivor Tournament.

Because xbowling is tied into scoring systems, it will allow fans access to real-time scoring and leaderboards from these premier youth events through their computers or mobile devices. Collegiate fans will be able to track players and teams at the ITC and ISC, which will take place in Lincoln, Neb., this April.

The application is free to download, so everyone can keep an eye on scores and statistics live from the National Bowling Stadium, not only during the Open Championships, but anytime.

Go to [xbowling.com](http://xbowling.com) to learn more about the xbowling platform and what it has to offer bowling fans.

**FROM TEENS TO** grandparents, people are becoming more connected as technology, especially smart phones, makes it easier to stay in touch with family and friends, and interact in completely new ways. A big part of bowling is social engagement, so what better sport to have its own social/mobile platform?

USBC and the International Bowling Campus are partnering with xbowling, an interactive social mobile platform designed specifically for bowlers. So what is xbowling and how does it work? In simple terms, xbowling is a mobile app that ties directly into the scoring systems of bowling centers creating endless possibilities for bowlers to connect and compete remotely. For the first time, individuals can play chal-

lenges on their mobile devices that integrate with their actual game of bowling and automatically receive real-time statistics on their smart devices.

USBC members competing in the 2013 Open Championships will get a first look at this exciting new technology. xbowling has created a special Tournament Edition of the xbowling app just for the tournament which will include real-time scores, a stats package, various leaderboard challenges, and a new entry challenge called the 90 Frame X Game. This new game will award points to bowlers who record strikes in designated frames of the tournament, and bowlers who achieve a certain amount of points will win cash rewards. You can find out all the details at [xbowling.com](http://xbowling.com)

Starting this year, xbowling will be the title sponsor of the Intercollegiate Team Cham-

## Watch the ITC, ISC



The xbowling Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships will take place April 15-20 at Sun Valley Lanes in Lincoln, Neb. In addition to being able to follow the bowlers with the xbowling app, fans can watch all the action:

**BowlTV:** All rounds of qualifying and match play for both events. Go to [BOWL.com/livestream](http://BOWL.com/livestream) for the schedule.

**CBS Sports Network:** Title matches of the ITC and semifinals and title matches for the ISC will be nationally televised in May. Go to [CBSSportsNetwork.com](http://CBSSportsNetwork.com) to find the channel in your area.

SPORT BOWLING

# ENTRY ANGLE

PBA Experience league bowlers can earn a spot in a PBA regional

**FOR ANY BOWLER** looking to improve their game, nothing provides a greater challenge than bowling on Sport conditions.

USBC and the Professional Bowlers Association give USBC members that challenge through PBA Experience leagues. By competing on the same conditions used in PBA competition, bowlers quickly learn the weaknesses in their games, the importance of consistency and to how to make adjustments to changing lane conditions.

And competing in a PBA Experience league now has a great new benefit.

For any PBA Experience league that started after Jan. 1, 2013, USBC and the PBA will award each member of the winning team an entry into a PBA regional event of their choice.

"The PBA has provided a great incentive for bowlers," USBC Managing Director of Membership and Events Pete Tredwell said. "PBA Experience leagues are not just for high-average bowlers. The less-forgiving conditions can help anyone become better and what could be more fun than competing on the same conditions the pros compete on every Sunday on TV?"

Tredwell also pointed out this is the perfect time for proprietors and center manag-

ers to start PBA Experience leagues because there is

such a valuable built-in award that comes at no cost to the

center.

"An entry into a PBA regional event isn't cheap," Tredwell said. "For a league that has three- or four-member teams, it is a significant award for the winning team."

Based on the playing strength of the league, the winning team will receive vouchers for entry into any PBA regional event. For example, if the PBA Experience league has three-person teams, the league will be awarded three entries regardless of the number of people on the winning team's roster. The voucher must be used within one year of being issued and is non-transferable.



## CRITERIA TO WIN A SPOT

The basic criteria for PBA Experience leagues to earn the spots in a PBA regional:

- **The league must have a minimum of eight teams and must bowl for a minimum of 12 weeks**
- **The league must follow all Sport Bowling guidelines outlined in the Sport Bowling technical manual**
- **The bowlers must be USBC Sport Bowling members in good standing**

Go to [BOWL.com/SportBowling](http://BOWL.com/SportBowling) for complete rules and to learn more about Sport bowling and the PBA Experience.



# USBC *QUICK STRIKES*

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS

## Open Championships underway

The 2014 USBC Open Championships kicked off March 1 at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nev. For the 110th edition, the tournament will have two lane conditions – one for team competition, one for doubles/singles – for the first time.

Bowlers also will have several side events at the NBS – the Storm Bowlers Journal Championships presented by USBC, the 900 Global Two-Game Challenge and the Who's Got The Look Baker Bonanza presented by 900 Global.

Go to [BOWL.com/OpenChamp](http://BOWL.com/OpenChamp) for the latest news from the tournament.



## CALENDAR

**Now-July 7**  
**USBC Open Championships**  
National Bowling Stadium  
Reno, Nev.

**March 8-10**  
**xbowling Intercollegiate Championships Sectionals**  
Allentown, Pa.; Smyrna, Tenn.;  
Fairview Heights, Ill.; Las Vegas

**April 12-July 1**  
**USBC Women's Championships**  
Reno-Sparks Convention Center  
Reno, Nev.

**April 15-20**  
**xbowling Intercollegiate Championships**  
Lincoln, Neb.

**April 30-May 3**  
**USBC Convention**  
Reno, Nev.

**June 9-14**  
**USBC Senior Masters**  
Las Vegas

**June 22-23**  
**USBC Youth Open West Region**  
Las Vegas

**July 11-28**  
**USBC Youth Open Championships**  
Sterling Heights, Mich.

**July 13-19**  
**North Pointe Junior Gold Championships**  
Detroit

Go to [BOWL.com/tournaments](http://BOWL.com/tournaments) for complete information.

## New senior event at ITRC

The International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas, will be the site of a new event for senior bowlers age 60 and older. The ITRC Super Senior Classic will take place Oct. 30-Nov. 1, immediately following the 2013 USBC Senior Queens.

To be eligible, bowlers must be at least 60 years of age by Oct. 30, 2013, and must have competed in either the 2013 USBC Senior Masters or Senior Queens. The three-day event will be broadcast live on BowlTV and the field will be limited to the first 56 entries. Go to

[BOWL.com/SuperSenior](http://BOWL.com/SuperSenior) for more information.

## High Five for youth

The USBC Youth page on [BOWL.com](http://BOWL.com) has a new look to spotlight the latest news in the world of youth bowling with a feature on youth bowling accomplishments. A section called High Five was developed as a way to recognize the on-lane accomplishments of USBC Youth bowlers. A form is available on the site so parents of youth bowlers are able to submit their children's accomplishments, along with a photo if they wish to do so.

Go to [BOWL.com/Youth](http://BOWL.com/Youth) to

see the new page and check out High Five.

## Laneman Award deadline

The USBC Equipment and Specifications team is accepting nominations and applications for the Jim Jaryszak Laneman Award until March 31. The award, named in honor of the former USBC Research Manager, recognizes a person for their behind-the-scenes work as a laneman. Go to [BOWL.com/equipandspecs](http://BOWL.com/equipandspecs) to submit a nomination or application. The Jim Jaryszak Laneman Award is presented each year at Bowl Expo.

## Dates set for Bowling Combine

Applications for the 2013 Bowling Combine for College Prospects, which will take place Aug. 6-10 at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas, now are being accepted. The popular program was developed to bring together youth bowlers, who want to compete at the collegiate level, and college coaches, who are looking for talented bowlers for their programs.

Any student-athlete who wants to attend must submit an application by May 14. Go to [BOWL.com/Combine](http://BOWL.com/Combine) for complete information.

