

ETS Mixed Bowling League

Bylaws and League Rules

2017-2018 Season

ETS Mixed Bowling League

BYLAWS

Article I – Name and Offices

The name of the league is the *Educational Testing Service Mixed Bowling League* and maintains offices at a location determined by the Secretary or elsewhere as determined by the Board of Directors. The league is a member of the Mercer-Burlington USBC Bowling Association (MBUSBCBA), a chartered association of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC).

Article II – Purposes

The purposes of the *Educational Testing Service Mixed Bowling League* include:

1. Providing governance and development for, and developing interest and participation in, the sport of bowling within the Mercer-Burlington USBC Association geographic area;
2. Being responsible to the members of the league;
3. Keeping the members informed of policy matters and reasonably reflecting their views in policy decisions;
4. Certifying and regulating league competition for bowling.

Article III – Membership and Dues

Section A. Membership

Membership in the *Educational Testing Service Mixed Bowling League*:

1. Is available to individuals who pay dues as established by the Board of Directors and who qualify under the rules of the league;
2. May be suspended or revoked without due process if a member has failed to pay applicable dues;
3. May be suspended or revoked by the Board following applicable due process if a member is found to have violated any USBC, state or local association, or league bylaws, policies, procedures, playing rules, or other requirements.

Upon obtaining membership in the league, each member agrees to be bound by all final decisions of the Board of Directors concerning application or interpretation of league bylaws, playing rules, and other matters relating to the sport of bowling as governed by the USBC.

Only members may bowl in league events.

Membership in the league is not transferable.

Section B. Dues

Educational Testing Service Mixed Bowling League members are required to pay dues to USBC, state and local associations, and the league, as established by the USBC, the associations, and the league on an annual basis.

Educational Testing Service Mixed Bowling League members are further required to pay weekly fees to include lineage, secretary and treasurer salaries, banquet fund, and prize fund. Weekly fees will be established by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.

Article IV – Board of Directors

The management of the league shall be vested in the Board of Directors, which shall consist of the officers and team captains. Decisions of the Board of Directors will be based on a majority vote of those present

and voting. The Board shall have the right to decide on all matters not specifically covered by the league or USBC rules. The league officers shall be elected by a majority vote of all league members attending the meeting called for such purposes. Only members attending the said meeting shall be eligible to be officers.

Section A. Officers

The officers of the *Educational Testing Service Mixed Bowling League* include a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. No person may hold both offices of President and Vice President. One person may hold both offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

Section B. Election

Officers are elected annually by the members of the league.

Section C. Term

Each officer shall serve a one-year term and may be re-elected annually.

Section D. Authority and Duties

1. The President:
 - a. Presides at the Annual Meeting of the league and at Board meetings;
 - b. Appoints the chair and members of all committees with Board approval;
 - c. Is the Chief Executive Officer of the league and is authorized, in concert with the Secretary or Treasurer to transact the business of the league;
 - d. Serves as the principal spokesperson for the league.
2. The Vice President:
 - a. Presides at the Annual Meeting of the league and at Board meetings when the President is absent;
 - b. Performs other duties as prescribed by the Board or requested by the President.
3. The Secretary:
 - a. Maintains the records of the league;
 - b. Validates weekly and tournament scores and standings;
 - c. In concert with the President, transacts the business of the league;
 - d. Is the league correspondent.
 - e. Performs whatever duties and responsibilities are prescribed by the Board or the President.
4. The Treasurer:
 - a. Collects the dues and weekly fees;
 - b. Maintains the financial records of the leagues and prepares monthly and annual reports;
 - c. In concert with the President, performs all financial transactions of the league.

Section E. Officer Salaries

1. No salary shall be paid to the President or Vice President;
2. Salary shall be paid to the Secretary and Treasurer, which shall be \$250.00 per office per year and shall be paid at the end of each season.

Article V – Meetings

Section A. Annual Meeting

An Annual Meeting of the league shall be held at a time and place approved by the Board of Directors.

Attendance is open to all members.

The presence of a simple majority of the members at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section B. Meetings of the Board of Directors

Meetings of the Board of Directors shall take place:

1. Prior to the start of each season;
2. When called by the President;
3. At the request of any Director subject to the approval of a majority of the Board.

Meetings may be held at a time and place determined by mutual consent of the Board and may be conducted remotely.

Meetings of the Board may be held on two days or greater notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

The presence of a simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. For the purposes of a quorum, each officer shall count as one person, but any officer holding both the Secretary and Treasurer positions shall have only one vote on matters to come before the Board.

Section C. Other Meetings

Meetings of the league may be called for the purpose of considering changes to the Bylaws at the request of any member. The member calling such meeting shall notify the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the date that such meeting is to be scheduled. Attendance at such a meeting is open to all members.

A meeting of the league shall take place before the commencement of the bowling season at a time and place to be determined by the President. This meeting will be informational in nature and shall not require the presence of a quorum unless actions are to be taken that require a quorum, in which case sufficient notice of the meeting shall have been provided two weeks prior to said meeting.

Article VI – Committees

Section A. Standing Committees

1. Banquet Committee

The banquet committee shall be responsible for all arrangements necessary for at least 2 social functions each season – a mid-season holiday party and an end of season awards banquet. Costs of these functions will be determined in consultation with the Treasurer.

Other functions may be held as recommended by the Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors.

2. Awards Committee

The awards committee shall be responsible for determining and securing trophies for the league championship team and shall recommend other awards as it deems appropriate to the Board of Directors.

Article VII – Adoption and Amendments

Adoption of these Bylaws requires approval by two thirds of the members.

Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any member, or by the Board of Directors. Amendments must be submitted to the Secretary, in writing, at least two weeks prior to any meeting of the members to be called for the purpose of such amendment, as stipulated in Article V Section C. Amendments to these Bylaws require approval by two thirds of the members.

2017-2018 League Rules

1 - USBC & MBUSBCBA Sanction Fees

Sanction fees, as established by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC), and local association fees, as established by the Mercer-Burlington USBC Bowling Association (MBUSBCBA), are required to be paid by all bowlers, including one-time substitutes. The sanction fees must be paid by week 2 of the season.

2 - League Fees

The amount to be paid by each bowler each week shall be determined each year by vote of the majority of the previous year's league members, which shall be at least the amount of lineage charged by the bowling lanes plus sufficient funds to cover the salaries of the Secretary and Treasurer. (The fee for **2017-2018** shall be **\$15.00** per person per week.) The amount charged will be allocated such that the difference between the amount owed to the league and the amount owed to the lanes is to be deposited in the league treasury. Such difference shall be used to pay the salaries of the Secretary and Treasurer, league roll-offs, expenses of the annual banquet, ordinary league expenses, and prizes, and sufficient funds to remain in the league treasury as may be required by the financial institution wherein the funds reside.

Any money remaining after all league expenses and prize money has been paid will be divided equally among the teams based on the number of regular team members on the team (rotators and substitutes are not considered).

Each team captain shall be responsible for turning in the entire team fee to the Treasurer **NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE SECOND GAME EACH WEEK.**

Arrears of 2 weeks in league fees will not be permitted. Any team that allows a bowler to bowl without paying league fees will forfeit games bowled using an unpaid bowler. Teams owing \$60 or more will forfeit their games bowled.

Payment of any returned check fees charged by the bank in which the league funds are deposited is the responsibility of the bowler whose check was returned. A bowler whose check has been returned may be asked to pay league fees only in cash for the remainder of the season.

An insurance fee equivalent to two weeks league fees must be paid by week 8 of the season.

3 - League Funds

An account shall be opened in the name of the league in any banking association to make weekly deposits. The President and Treasurer shall sign for withdrawals. The President shall verify the balance each month. A financial statement will be available upon request at the end of the season.

4 - Team Rosters

Teams will be limited to six players; 4 Regular and 2 Rotators. Additional players will be considered substitutes for the purpose of these rules. New players cannot be added to a team's roster in the final seven weeks of the schedule without the approval of the Board of Directors.

Position night, playoffs, and roll-offs must be bowled with roster members with a minimum of 40% of

possible games bowled. Substitutes are not allowed during these events.

5 - Substitutes

Any amateur bowler is eligible to bowl as a substitute. No substitute may bowl with more than one team for the regularly scheduled match each week. Rule 7 - Averages is applicable in determining averages for substitutes. Either male or female substitutes may replace male or female team members.

6 - Legal Line-up

A legal line-up shall be comprised of at least two players from the team's current roster and a maximum of two substitutes drawn from the league substitute list. A minimum of two players is needed for a legal line-up, except where a team has been granted a prebowl. Where both a substitute and blind score is used, a substitute shall always bowl for the absent regular member who has the least games bowled in the current season. If two regular players are tied in the number of games bowled, the substitute shall bowl for the absent player with the lowest average.

7 - Averages

A bowler's USBC entering average (a prior season's average based on 21 games or more) will be used to compute team averages for the first nine games. In the case of a bowler without an entering average, the bowler's average will be computed based on the first 3 game series bowled and this average will be used in computing the team average for that series and the immediate subsequent series. Thereafter, the team average will be computed using the running average of that bowler. In the event a bowler without an entering average cannot bowl a 3-game series in a match, each game shall constitute an average until the third game has been bowled.

Team averages will be computed on a running average basis once each bowler on the team has bowled nine games.

8 - Handicap

The team with the lower total average shall carry a handicap for each game. The handicap shall be 90% of the difference between the sums of the averages of the two teams bowling that game (plus the average of any blinds) with no limit on the number of pins allowed. Fractional handicap scores shall be truncated (e.g. A computed handicap of 145.6 shall be scored at 145 pins.)

9 - Schedule

The season will consist of **32** weeks divided into **4** quarters. There will be **4** position nights during the season. Points will reset after each position night.

In the event that a quarter should end in a tie, a play-off shall be completed to determine a winner. The play-off shall consist of a single game. If the game ends in a tie, an extra complete frame shall be bowled to determine the winner.

Scores bowled in such play-offs shall not count toward individual or team averages or any special prizes being offered by the league.

There will be no bowling during the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years unless otherwise agreed upon by the Board of Directors.

In the event of early ETS closing on the day of a scheduled league match due to bad weather, there will be no league match that evening. Information about a canceled league match will be left at the service desk of Slocum's Bowling Center.

10 - Tardy Players

Practice with pins begins at **6:20** pm with league match beginning at **6:30** pm. A team will not be allowed to start practice until all names have been entered in the automatic scorer.

A tardy player, arriving prior to the end of the 4th frame, shall be permitted to begin bowling from the first frame, with the score to count. A tardy player must be ready and able to bowl prior to the end of the 4th frame. In no event shall a tardy player be allowed to begin bowling if unprepared to bowl before the end of the 4th frame. Tardy players must bowl all missed frames consecutively.

11 - Prebowling

Individual unopposed bowling is permitted except for Position Night, Playoffs, and Roll-offs. Pre-bowling must be done the same week of absence.

Pre-bowled scores must be presented to the opposing team prior to the beginning of league match. A league member can prebowl a maximum of 30 games.

12 - Blind Scores

Blind scores shall be allowed when a team has a legal line-up but less than a full line-up at the start of a game. No more than two blind scores are to be used for a single game. The handicap shall be figured on the averages of any absentees whose scores are used to determine the blind score. In the case of an absentee on teams with more than 4 players, USBC Rule 105 shall govern and the blind score shall be based on the bowler with the most games bowled this season. Refer to USBC Rule 105 for other situations.

13 - Position Standings

Standings shall be determined on a point basis, with two points being awarded for each game won and one point for high series.

14 - Playoffs

Playoffs will begin the first week after the regular season ends and finish no later than two weeks after the season ends. Trophies will be awarded to overall league champions, which shall be determined as follows:

Each team winning a quarter season will be entered into a round-robin tournament. If any round ends in a tie, the team with most total pins will be considered the winner of the round.

In the case of four quarter season winners, the winner of the first quarter will bowl against the winner of the third quarter and the winner of the second quarter will bowl against the winner of fourth quarter in a preliminary round. Winners of the preliminary rounds will bowl each other in the final round. Each round will consist of two games.

In the case of three quarter season winners, each of the winners of one quarter will bowl each other in a preliminary round and the winner of two quarters will have a bye. The winner of the preliminary round will bowl against the bye team in a final round. Each round will consist of two games.

In the case of two quarter season winners, the two teams will bowl a final round of three games.

In the case of one team winning all four quarters, that team will be declared league champions.

15 - Prizes

Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Board of Directors, as recommended by the Prize Committee. The Prize List will be determined prior to the 6th week of the season.