

METRO BOWLING LEAGUE RULES

2014-2015 SEASON

The Metro Bowling League shall consist of (20) teams with a minimum playing strength of (5) members per team. Each player including substitutes must be USBC sanctioned. Each team will bowl (1) night each week for (36) weeks on Tuesday, commencing on August 12, 2014. All scheduled matches will start at 6:30 P.M. The league will be sanctioned with the United States Bowling Congress, Columbia, Mo.

RULE 1 – MANAGEMENT

The management of the league shall be vested in the Board of Directors which shall consist of the officers and team captains. The league members shall elect the officers and the league members shall adopt league rules. A majority shall constitute a quorum.

RULE 2 – SECRETARY'S SALARY

The secretary's salary shall be such that his/her weekly lineage shall be paid. The secretary shall pay such lineage each week but will then be fully reimbursed at the completion of the schedule, unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors. Full payment will not be authorized until the secretary has submitted the final average sheet to the Association Manager.

RULE 3 – FRANCHISE

The franchise shall be held by the team captain as long as the captain is acceptable to the majority of the full membership of the Board of Directors. A franchise cannot be recalled during the season without sufficient cause.

The league secretary shall be notified of the captain's intention to retain the franchise at the payoff meeting of the league. Failure to do so will result in the franchise returning to the control of the Board of Directors.

Disputes pertaining to the captaincy of sponsorship which cannot be resolved by the team will be referred to the Board of Directors.

RULE 4 – FEES

Each team will pay to the secretary a sponsor fee of \$50.00 within thirty days after the opening of the league schedule. Each bowler shall pay a fee of \$18.00 each night of bowling which encompasses the house bowling fee, including sales tax and the prize fund. The house will be paid the amount due each night and the remainder will be placed in the league treasury. The team captain will be responsible for his team's funds to be paid to the secretary prior to the (5th.) frame of the first game. Unpaid fees will not be taken out of any prize fund. An account will be opened in the name of the league in a bank in which funds will be deposited weekly. The President will verify the balance monthly. Withdrawals will be made only with (2) signatures of the authorized league officers.

RULE 5 – PRIZES

Prior to the start of the schedule, the President will appoint a committee of (3) members to make up a prize list. Team and individual prizes will be awarded on a scratch and handicap basis. The prize list must be approved by the team captains and posted within (5) weeks of the schedule. To qualify for individual prize money a bowler must bowl in a minimum of two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the scheduled games (73). A bowler and team can qualify for (1) special prize. A bowler can qualify for a high average award and (1) other special prize.

RULE 6 – ESTABLISHING AN AVERAGE

A new bowler (one not on the average sheet) will establish an average with the first three games bowled within the current year's schedule. Returning bowlers will use last year's average for their first nine games. After nine games they will use this year's average.

RULE 7 – TEAM ROSTERS

Captains will turn in rosters of team members to the secretary at the start of the season. Rosters will be limited to (8) members. Any changes must be reported to the secretary at least (24) hours prior to league play. New bowlers cannot be added to the team roster in the final (7) weeks of the schedule without approval of the Board of Directors.

RULE 8 – LEGAL LINEUP

A legal lineup shall consist of at least (3) members from a team roster for each game bowled.

RULE 9 – HANDICAP

The handicap shall be (80%) of the difference of the team average and (1050). Team average shall be the total of the averages used of the members bowling. New bowlers will use their average established after bowling their first three games of the current year's schedule. Returning bowlers will use last year's averages for the first nine games and, thereafter, their running average will be used for the remaining games of the schedule.

RULE 10 – BLIND AND VACANCY SCORES

Blind scores (when a roster bowler is missing for the game) shall be figured on the basis of the current average less (10) pins of an absent bowler. The absent bowler's average with the most games bowled will be used. The team handicap shall be figured on the average of the absent bowler.

A vacancy score (when a team has less than (5) bowlers on their official roster) shall be 150 per game and the handicap for the team score shall be based upon 150.

RULE 11 – TARDY PLAYERS

A tardy player shall be permitted to begin bowling from the first frame, with the score to count, provided the match has not progressed beyond completion of the third frame of the first game and the tardy player has entered the bowling establishment. The same rule shall apply for the second and third games.

RULE 12 – POSTPONEMENTS AND PRE-BOWLS

All requests for postponements and pre-bowls shall be filed with one officer, except those caused by emergencies. Games will be made up within one week prior to (pre-bowls) or subsequent to (postponements) the regular

scheduled bowling night. The opposing team will bowl on the designated night. Notification shall be made at least (48) hours in advance, except for emergencies. There will be no single bowls allowed in the league.

RULE 13 – FORFEITURES

A team must have (3) members from the team's current roster at the start of any game or the game must be forfeited. If two members are present, the opposing team must wait for the completion of the (3rd.) frame prior to declaring a forfeit for the first game. A team must have (3) members present from the team's current roster prior to the start of the second and/or third game or those respective games will be forfeited.

RULE 14 – POSITION STANDINGS

Standing will be determined on a point basis, with one point awarded for each game won and one point awarded for the high team series in each match.

RULE 15 – SUBSTITUTES

There will be no roving substitutes in the league.

RULE 16 – LEAGUE COMPOSITION

The league will have open rosters consisting of men and women members of the USBC.

RULE 17 – MISCELLANEOUS

Any issues not covered by the above rules will be covered by the current USBC rules.

Disciplinary Committee

Approved by the Metro Bowling League
Board of Directors
8/12/14

As of this year, if a disciplinary committee is approved, members will consist of current league officers. The following year, the Sergeant-At-Arms will have the option of either choosing his/her own committee or keeping current members. In some cases, the manager of the bowling center will be able to have a say in disciplinary measures dependent upon that individual's actions. Rules of discipline are as follows:

1st. incident: Verbal warning

2nd. incident: Verbal warning

3rd. incident: \$18.00 fine that will be contributed to the end of the year prize fund.

4th. incident: 2 week suspension. This means that the team captain and individual are responsible for providing a substitute or having that bowler use a blind score if one is not found. In addition, the suspended bowler will be responsible for paying league fees for those two weeks. If the suspended bowler doesn't have a set average after 12 games, then their average from the previous year or current league average will be used as a blind score.

5th. incident: Expulsion from the league. If for some reason the individual wishes to *return to the league, it will be done so by approval from league officers and team captains.* In this case, expulsion would be for the remainder of the season. Team captains will be responsible for finding a replacement. Expelled bowlers are not responsible for fees from that week on.

Continuation of Expulsion

Team captains can decide whether or not the team member that was expelled will be able to have a share of the individual team's prize fund. However, the League Secretary will divide that money into 5 equal shares.

In cases of extreme behavior, such as property destruction and/or assault, the bowling manager and/or staff have the right to pursue criminal litigation against the individual or individuals that can supersede the rules of the disciplinary committee. The manager reserves the right for individuals charged to pay for damages to any property in the bowling center. Actions such as these that lead to the arrest of that individual or individuals will automatically result in expulsion from the league.