

72nd ANNUAL COLORADO OPEN HANDICAP TOURNAMENT RULES AND INFORMATION

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ENTRIES CLOSE MIDNIGHT APRIL 25, 2025.

1. **DRESS CODE** – ALL BOWLERS must wear suitable attire when participating in the tournament. ACCEPTABLE: Slacks, jeans (no holes) and capris. All “formal wear” shorts, skirts or skorts **MUST BE BELOW FINGERTIP LENGTH WITH ARMS HANGING.** Collar or collarless shirts with sleeves. UNACCEPTABLE: Athletic or workout attire of any kind including leggings and yoga pants. Tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, etc. No hats or electronic devices can be worn during competition. Smoking electronic cigarettes or vapor devices in the center while bowling will NOT be ALLOWED. Tournament management decision will be final.
 2. **BALL CLEANING /CHANGES** – After entrant begins competition, the outer surface of the ball may only be cleaned with a dry towel. No use of liquids of any kind. Non-compliance will result in loss of use of the ball for the remainder of the competition.
 3. **MULTIPLE TEAM EVENTS** - Entrants may bowl more than once in the team event, subject to these conditions: a. No more than two (2) players may compete on the same team more than once in this tournament, USBC RULE 315b.1. A bowler participating more than once in the team event **MUST** count their first team score for All-Events.
 4. **DOUBLES AND SINGLES** – Entrant may bowl only once in each event. **PENALTY** – Any doubles/singles after the first set will be forfeited. Bowlers entering doubles and singles **MUST** enter both events. Doubles will be bowled first with doubles/singles bowled on the same pair of lanes.
 5. **ELIGIBILITY** - The 72ND Annual Colorado State Open Tournament is open to all USBC Members of any association chartered with the United States Bowling Congress within the State of Colorado. Any USBC member who identifies themselves as a "Professional" may participate in this tournament, limiting the number of individuals defined as professional bowlers to two on a five-person team and one on a doubles team.
 6. **AVERAGES** – USE HIGHEST 2023-2024 USBC certified league AVERAGE OF 21 OR MORE GAMES. A bowler without a 2023-2024 average may use their highest 2024-2025 USBC certified league average of 21 or more games as of the starting date of the tournament (May 3, 2025). If the bowler has none of the above, an average of 230 will be assigned with no handicap being offered. **BOWLERS USING AN** May 3, 2025, AVERAGE must have the average verified by the league secretary, with verification presented at the time of bowling the first event.
 7. **USBC RULE 319a, PARAGRAPH 2 (10 PIN RULE) DOES APPLY.** If the bowler’s average of 21 or more games as of May 3, 2025, is 10 pins higher than their 2023-2024 certified league average, the highest average must be used.
 8. **AVERAGE ADJUSTMENT (Rerating) – Bowler’s tournament average adjustment (USBC RULE 319e) APPLIES TO THIS TOURNAMENT.**
 9. **VERIFICATION OF AVERAGES** - It shall be each bowler’s responsibility to verify the accuracy of his/her average, whether submitted by the bowler, the Team. Captain or others. Failure to use the proper average or make the correction prior to the end of the first game of a series shall disqualify the score if the submitted average is lower than the actual average. If the submitted average is higher than required, prize winnings will be based on the submitted average.
 10. **HANDICAP** – Shall be based on 90% OF 230.
 11. **PRIZE RATIO** – For Team, Doubles, Singles and All-Events will be 1 in 7.
 12. **PRIZE FEES** – 100% of all prize fees collected will be returned to the participants in each event or division. (Rule 308).
 13. **AWARDS**- Will be awarded to the handicap Champions in each division of the tournament: team, doubles, singles, and all-events and to the scratch all-events champions. Handicap and scratch all-events championships may be won by the same individual.
 14. **TIES** - Should a tie for 1st Place in any event of the tournament, "Co-Champions" shall be declared, with appropriate award to each, and prize money involved for the 1st Place & 2nd Place shall be combined and divided equally between the participants in the tie.
 15. **REFUNDS** - USBC Rule 314. After an entry has been received, and the dates assigned by tournament management are not refused before preparation of the schedule, the entry fee cannot be refunded after May 3, 2025.
 16. **TEAM CAPTAINS** are the team representative and will serve in all matters pertaining to individual behavior and compliance with tournament and USBC rules. The team captain will be responsible to the Tournament Manager for the conduct of her team members throughout the times they are on the lanes in competition.
 17. **W-9’s** - Any team whose members have not provided W-9’s for IRS purposes may have their prize checks delayed until all W-9’s are collected.
 18. **REPLACEMENTS** - Are authorized by the team captain and must occupy the same position in the lineup as the original entrant. Once a replacement bowler has been added to the roster, and the replacement bowler has delivered the first ball in competition, the replacement bowler shall be allowed to complete the entire series.
 19. **PACERS ARE NOT ALLOWED.**
 20. **CHECK-IN REQUIREMENTS** – ALL BOWLERS MUST CHECK-IN INDIVIDUALLY Starting 1 hour prior to Squad time. Bowlers should not leave the center after checking in as the squad may start early once all participants have checked in. Squads will start early if lanes are available.
 21. **PRACTICE STARTS 10 MINUTES PRIOR TO SQUAD STARTING TIME. COMPETITION STARTS AT POSTED SQUAD TIME!**
 22. **ENTRANTS WILL BE ASKED TO SHOW THEIR CURRENT SEASON USBC MEMBERSHIP CARDS or SIGNED RECEIPT STUB FOR THE 2024-2025 SEASON WHEN CHECKING IN.**
 23. **TARDY PLAYERS** – All squads will start on time, barring unforeseen difficulties. Tardy bowlers arriving late for any event will be allowed to bowl, with their scores starting with the frame in which they are READY for tournament play NO Score for frames missed. Bowlers refusing to start at the scheduled time due to lack of players will forfeit the right to bowl and all entry fees paid. USBC Rule #11 DELAY OF GAME will be enforced.
 24. **LOST SCORES - SCOREKEEPERS** - USBC RULE 327a, USBC RULE 327c
 25. **SCORE SHEETS** - After a score sheet has been signed by the bowler or team captain, it cannot be changed except in the case of an obvious error. Bowlers are cautioned not to sign score sheets before or during the competition. Duplicate score sheets are available for bowlers. Computer printouts will be the official score sheet in case of discrepancies in scores.
 26. **PROTESTS** – RULES 329a (1) and 329b (1). Any protest affecting eligibility or Tournament Rules must be confirmed in writing to the Tournament Manager within 72 hours of the infraction or prior to tournament prizes being paid, or whichever occurs first. The decision of the tournament manager is final unless a written appeal is filed with USBC headquarters within 10 days of notification of the tournament management’s decision.
 27. **HIGH SCRATCH ALL-EVENTS**:-The winner will receive an entry in the 2026 USBC Masters Tournament. Bowlers must be entered in the Regular Scratch All-Events to win this award.
 28. **HIGH SCRATCH GAME AND 800 SERIES OF THE TOURNAMENT**- These bowler(s) will receive a plaque.
 29. **SCHEDULING**- Lane assignments are made by the Tournament Manager. Additional squads may be added during the tournament. However, no squad may be added after the final squad at 1:30 pm Sunday June 1, 2025, without approval from USBC Headquarters.
 30. **USBC RULES WILL APPLY IN ALL INSTANCES NOT SPECIFICALLY COVERED BY THE ABOVE RULES.**
- **SLOW BOWLING** – 3 hours are allowed for team event and 3 ½ hours for Double/Singles. Entrants are expected to complete their competition within these time frames; if not, entrants may expect to be monitored by tournament staff. **

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