

GCRA League Rules

BOWLING LEAGUE

These rules are set in place so that everyone participating in the league, including the spectators, can enjoy the league for a time of fun and fellowship.

SECTION I. GENERAL RULES

- I. **In the event that the Commissioner is unavailable or is unreachable by phone, then the Secretary shall have full acting responsibility to make any and all rulings that are needed at the time of incident.**
- II. The league runs in 2 sessions: August – December and January – May. Both sessions run 18 weeks with a Banquet at the end of each.
- III. Anyone is eligible to bowl within the league, as long as there is not a need for bumpers. Any age is accepted and families are encouraged to bowl together.
- IV. The league expects that bowlers be at the alley by 6:30 pm. The lanes will be turned on at 6:35 pm for 5 minutes of warm-up bowling. By 6:40 the league commences.
- V. All bowlers participating in the league **must** be willing to sanction with the USBC.
- VI. All sanctioning fees must be paid in within 21 days of the start of the league or when joining the league if joining after the start of the league. We are required to pay all sanctioning fees to the USBC within 30 days after the start of the league.
- VII. All line fees are expected the night of bowling. If anyone is unable to pay, arrangements need to be made that night to catch – up all fees. If a bowler does not pay, the league **MUST STILL** pay the house for that bowler.
- VIII. **It is the responsibility of the team to bring the payment envelopes to the treasurer.** The treasurer is usually set up at a back table in the center of all the lanes. Since the treasurer is dealing with league funds, it is not convenient or safe to leave the table to hunt down missing envelopes. Please be considerate of the treasurer's job and do not make it harder than it needs to be.
- IX. All checks are to be made out to **GCRA BOWLING**. In the event that the bank returns a check for Insufficient Funds, the bowler will be expected to reimburse the league for all monies owed, including any fees incurred from the bank.
- X. If any bowler misses 2 nights in a row without any communication, on the 3rd night if still no communication, then the bowler will be dropped from the roster. Any bowler can be re-instated to the team once the back fees are paid.
- XI. A legal team roster is 2. A team can carry as many bowlers as it wants, but the league recommends no more than 5. This is 4 regular bowlers and 1 sub.

SECTION II SANCTIONING AND LINE FEES

- I. USBC Sanction Fees are good for one (1) year. The year runs from August to July. If a bowler bowls both sessions (Jan. – May and Aug. – Dec.) then fees are paid in August and covers both sessions.
- II. In the event that only one session is bowled, a bowler is still responsible for the whole amount of fee. Unfortunately there is not a discount for only bowling a partial year.
- III. USBC Sanctioning fees:

\$14.00	=	Men's Sanctioning
\$15.00	=	Women's Sanctioning
\$11.00	=	Youth Sanctioning*

*Youth is defined by the USBC as anyone 21 and under who are in an educational setting such as elementary, high school, or college that must maintain an amateur status as defined by TSSAA or NCAA rules.
- IV. Line fees:

\$10.00	=	League fees for the house and the GCRA
\$2.50	=	Shoe Rental
- V. Returned Checks:

In the event that the bank returns a check for Insufficient Funds, the bowler is expected to take care of the fees plus any incurred fees from the bank. All monies are expected to be taken care of immediately.

SECTION III TEAM SPECIFIC RULES

1. This league is first and foremost a family league. With that being stated, please remember that this league has many YOUTH who bowl. Competitiveness is appreciated, but not to the detriment of the fun atmosphere and camaraderie that this league enjoys*.
2. In the event that a team only has one (1) bowler show up, the team will NOT forfeit their games. The one bowler must take absentee (bozo) scores for remaining team members.
3. Absentee scores (bozo scores) are average minus ten (10) pins.
4. This is a handicap league. To determine handicap: it is average from 210 at 90%. Example: Average 150. $210 - 150 = 60$. $90\% \text{ of } 60 = 54$ Handicap is 54.
5. If any bowler arrives AFTER the 3rd frame, the absentee (bozo) score must be taken. If a bowler arrives before the 3rd frame the frames can be caught up and bowling resumes as normal. After the 3rd frame, any bowler arriving can bowl their second and third games.
6. A team roster is allowed to be any combination of bowlers. It can be all men, all women, mixed, children, or any combination that can be thought up.

*This league has been since its inception a family event. We have children who bowl, as well as children who come with their parents to the alley every week. This league has maintained an atmosphere where good examples are set for those bowling as well as those who are watching and learning from those around them. While competitiveness for top marks has its place within the league, it is not “the end all to be all”. We accept all bowlers even those with disabilities.

SECTION IV BANQUET, AWARDS, AND ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for Trophies and Awards:

1. Team Rosters are recommended to be no more than 5, 4 regular bowlers and 1 sub. The reason is that to be eligible for any award within the league a bowler must bowl 66% (36 games) of the 18week season.
2. The following are available awards:
 - A. Men’s Awards
 - B. Women’s Awards
 - C. Boy’s Awards
 - D. Girl’s Awards
 - E. Each Division includes:
 - i. High Game
 - ii. High Average
 - iii. High Series
 - iv. Most Improved
3. There are also “TEAM VOTED AWARDS”. These include:
 - A. Team Voted Most Fun to Bowl With.
 - B. Individual Voted the Most Fun to Bowl With.
 - C. PINHEADZ Award – this award is given to the person voted to be the most outrageous personality. This is the person who was the most fun to be around. This person was the “life of the party” so to speak.
 - D. The Christian Attitude Award – this award is given to the team voted by their peers to have shown Christ in all situations. While the entire league is to be an example to those around who are not a part of our league, sometimes there are those who stand out as shining examples. This is what defines this award.

Banquet:

The banquet is open to anyone who has bowled in the league, spouses, and children living within the home. The meal is paid for from the money collected within the league over the 18 weeks. One (1) dessert is to be brought per team. The banquet is held in the meeting room at the back of the bowling alley with the option of bowling for \$1.00 per game after the awards are given out. The \$1.00 bowling is open to anyone who attended the banquet.

SECTION V

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

It cannot be stressed enough that this is a family league where all are accepted and will remain thus as long as the league exists. While no one is perfect, the following examples of unacceptable behavior within the league and can cause the offender to be asked to leave the league:

1. Foul or Obscene Language
2. Abuse of the equipment – no kicking or hitting the monitors, ball return, or anything else.
3. Abuse or degradation of another bowler.

Drinking Alcohol is also unacceptable. While drinking is a personal choice, it is not appropriate during this league. This league has enforced a strict “NO DRINKING” policy since the inception and has opted to continue doing so.

There have been incidents in the past where children, while the parents are bowling, are running up and down the lanes, playing in the restrooms – making wet paper towel “bombs”, soaking the floor with water, or walking up on the lanes while bowlers are approaching for delivery. Please remember that children are always welcome within the league and are highly encouraged to be at the alleys with their parents, but they are also to behave. If a child is caught misbehaving, especially trashing the restrooms, then the parents will be notified and expected to clean up the mess.

SECTION VI

SMOKING POLICY

While the Bowling Alley is now a smoke free building, there are areas outside where anyone wanting to smoke can go. If there is a need to smoke, please be considerate of those bowling on your team and on opposing teams, try not to delay the games longer than necessary.