

**BOYS NIGHT OUT (BNO) LEAGUE  
2011 - 2012 RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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## **RULE #1: SCHEDULE**

The Boy's Night Out (BNO) Handicap Bowling League will consist of teams with a playing strength of 4 bowlers, of which the league must be sanctioned/certified by the USBC through the local association (NCAUSBCA). The league will be governed by the rules provided by USBC, however, where applicable, the league may adopt rules specific to the **2011-2012** BNO League.

The league will bowl on Tuesday evenings for a period of 35 weeks commencing on August 30, 2011 straight through until April 24, 2012. Practice will begin at 6:25pm with a practice time of 10 minutes.

## **RULE #2: MANAGEMENT**

Those members present at the organization meeting will constitute a quorum and adopt league rules, based on simple majority (i.e. 1 vote more than half constitutes a decision).

The management of this league will be vested in the league's Board of Directors which shall consist of its league officers and team captains. League meetings conducted during the course of the season (1<sup>st</sup> night of bowling through 35 weeks) must have two-thirds of the team captains and at least 1 league officer for a quorum. In order to change a league rule during the course of the season (i.e. after the first ball is thrown on week 1), 100% approval by team captains is required. The League officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, and a Secretary/Treasurer. Nominations for these positions will be accepted and voted on during league payout.

## **RULE #3: REGISTRATION and FRANCHISE & LEAGUE FEES**

### **3a: REGISTRATION**

Registration into the league is done in the form of a "Franchise Fee". The Franchise Fee is the responsibility of the team captain as the authority of the franchise/team. The fee is \$40.00 which is to be paid prior to the start of league season. Teams who were in the league last season have until July 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year to pay their Franchise Fee and reserve their spot in next season's league. Once the deadline is passed, the waiting list will be invoked. The Franchise Fee will go directly into the Prize Fund and will be returned 100%.

### **3b: WAITING LIST**

A waiting list will be established for all new teams and those bowlers who may disband from their current team and wish to enter the league in the upcoming season. The waiting list will be first come, first served. Any team that does not renew their status in the league by the due date above will be placed behind any new teams already on the waiting list.

### **3c. LEAGUE FEES**

The cost of bowling for each member shall be \$25.00 weekly - **\$12.95** will cover the cost of bowling; \$.50 will cover the Sec/Treas. salary; with the balance of **\$11.55** being awarded for the league prizes. The **last 2 weeks of bowling must be paid by week 5** and is non-refundable should you resign from the league under any circumstances. **Fees and weekly dues must be paid by cash or check.**

USBC Sanction/Certification fees must be paid on the bowler's first night of league play. USBC fees are **\$21.00** (USBC - \$10, State - \$1, Local \$10) per bowler. Every bowler must complete a sanction card, even if sanctioned through another league. All checks are to be made payable to **BOYS NIGHT OUT** and **NO CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER WEEK 30**. Any returned check fees shall be borne by the writer of the check and a \$30.00 service fee will be paid to the league in

cash and the money placed into the league's slush fund. Returned checks shall be immediately replaced in cash, including any bank charges. Bowlers experiencing a returned check shall be unable to pay for bowling via check for the remainder of the league.

The Sec/Treas. salary shall be paid at the completion of the league when all duties (league sanctioning, applications for awards, and final average submittal) have been completed.

#### **RULE #4: ARREARS**

In the event a bowler is absent, he must pay all arrearages on the first night he returns to bowl unless the Board of Directors have made other arrangements with the bowler. **NO ONE** will be allowed to bowl without paying weekly league fees. All games shall be forfeited by any team with a member who is one week in arrears with league fee payments, excluding those who are currently absent. The team captains shall be responsible for collecting and verifying the weekly fees and turning the money envelopes into the secretary/treasurer by the end of the first game.

#### **RULE #5: LEAGUE FUNDS**

An account shall be maintained in the name of the league at BB&T in which funds shall be deposited weekly. Withdrawals from the account shall be done only with the joint signatures of at least 2 officers of the league. The President shall verify the balance monthly in accordance with USBC rules. Any discrepancy should be reported to BB&T.

#### **RULE #6: PRIZES/ELIGIBILITY**

The Vice President of the league shall appoint a committee of 3 to present prize lists to the league by the 5<sup>th</sup> week of bowling. The prize lists presented will be voted on by the league and the league will accept the prize list with the majority of the votes. If no majority, then the top 2 prize funds will be selected and the league will revote. A bowler must have bowled 2/3 (70 games) of the season, as a paying team member, to be eligible for any individual awards. A team may win only one team award excluding team position. An individual may win only one award excluding most improved and/or high average. Handicap awards take precedence over scratch awards, series over game awards. Most Improved average will be determined from the 12<sup>th</sup> game to the completion of the league.

In the event of a tie for the High Game Award, the individual's next highest game will be used as the tie-breaker. *(Example: Bowler A and Bowler B shoot 300. Bowler A's next highest game is 289 and Bowler B's next highest game is 279, Bowler A would win the prize.)*

#### **RULE #7: ENTERING AVERAGES & HANDICAPS**

The rules are as follows for both regular and substitute members:

- Bowlers will use their 2010-2011 BNO average (min. of 21 games) for the first 12 games bowled.
- If a bowler does not have a 2010-2011 BNO average, then bowlers will use their highest 2010-2011 book average for the first 12 games bowled.
- If a bowler does not have a 2010-2011 BNO or book average, then they will use their 2009-2010 book average for the first 12 games bowled.

- If a bowler does not fall under the criteria above the bowler will use their first 3 games bowled to establish average and that average will adjust as each night is bowled.
- Handicap will be based upon 90% of the difference between 230 and the bowler's current average. The team handicap shall be the combined handicap of the individual bowlers added together.

### **RULE #8: 10-PIN DROP**

During the league season, all bowlers (members and substitutes) will be subject to the 10-pin drop rule. Guidelines for this rule are as follows:

- If using a BNO average from 2010-2011 (min. of 21 games), a bowler will not be awarded additional handicap if they are averaging 11 or more pins less than that BNO average.
- If using a book average from 2010-2011, a bowler will not be awarded additional handicap if they are averaging 11 or more pins less than that book average.
- If using a book average from 2009-2010, a bowler will not be awarded additional handicap if they are averaging 11 or more pins less than that book average.
- If the bowler does not have a BNO average or a book average, then that bowler will be handicapped according to RULE #7. After 12 games, that bowler's established average will be subjected to the 10-pin drop from that point forward.

**EXAMPLE: A bowler's book average is 200. The first 12 games of bowling the bowler will be handicapped based on 200. After 12 games, if the bowler averages 185 (less than 190), the bowler will only be awarded handicap based on 190, NOT 185.**

### **RULE #9: TEAM ROSTER**

A roster with a maximum of 6 team members, including addresses and phone numbers, will be submitted to the Sec/Treas. by each team captain during the first night of bowling. **Any changes to the team roster must be reported to the Secretary 24 hours prior to bowling.** New bowlers, regular or substitute will not be added to the team's roster or substitute during the final 5 weeks of the league schedule unless approved by the Board of Directors.

### **RULE #10: POSITION ROUNDS (Balanced Scheduling)**

The league will function with a "Balanced Schedule". A "Balanced Schedule" is determined based on the number of teams in the league and will allow for all teams to bowl each other once when the week is not deemed a position round. Standard position round scheduling will be every 5<sup>th</sup> week along with the last two weeks of bowling. Any additional position rounds needed to maintain a "Balanced Schedule" will be left to the decision of the league officers.

For the **2011-2012** Season, position rounds will be scheduled for Week **#5, #10, #14, #15, #20, #24, #25, #30, #34, and the final Week #35**. Substitutes will not be allowed on a position round week. **Any changes to the team roster must be reported to the Secretary 24 hours prior to bowling.** Position Round for the last week of bowling will have a lock-out rule applied. If the first place team cannot move to 2<sup>nd</sup> place, that team will bowl the last placed team, 2<sup>nd</sup> place will bowl 3<sup>rd</sup> place, etc.

## **RULE #11: SUBSTITUTES**

The league will maintain a list of roving substitutes. No one may sub for more than one team during the regularly scheduled games each week; this includes league make-ups (pre- and post-bowls). Substitutes will not be eligible for awards. Substitutes joining the league as a regular member shall be eligible for awards only from the time they joined the league as a member. The substitute must also meet eligibility requirements for awards (SEE RULE#6). No substitutes will be allowed to bowl on a position round week or during the last 5 weeks of the league (weeks 31-35).

## **RULE #12: ABSENTEE SCORES**

Absentee scores shall be allowed when a team has less than a full lineup but maintains a legal lineup of any given game. The absentee score shall be the missing bowler's true average less 10 pins with full handicap as it coincides with RULE #8.

## **RULE #13: VACANCIES**

When a team does not have enough players on its roster to fill a lineup, a vacancy score of 215 will be used and 0 handicap. A vacancy will be used in place of a new bowler (person without a BNO average from last year, based on 21 games) to the league until that bowler shows to bowl. **Example:** if the new bowler is absent week one, a vacancy is used for that week and the bowler will be responsible for the Secretary and Prize fund money, not lineage, on the week they start bowling. When a bowler is against the vacancy, he must beat the 215 score with his score plus handicap. If the bowler does not beat the vacancy, the team with the vacancy must win their team match in order to earn the point.

## **RULE #14: RESIGNATIONS (supported by rule 114b (2))**

If a bowler decides to resign from the league, the bowler is responsible for notifying a league officer a minimum of two weeks in advance of their departure. The bowler is responsible for paying league fees up to the date of resignation. If a bowler resigns, without prior notification, the bowler will be responsible for two weeks of league fees from the date of resignation.

All money paid up-to the date of resignation is forfeited to the league, unless no notification was given and therefore the additional two weeks would be forfeited as well. Any money that was paid in advance for weeks past the resignation date will be refunded, except the final two-weeks of bowling which is deemed non-refundable in RULE #3.

**EXAMPLE 1: On week 10, you notify an officer that you will be resigning in 2 weeks; you are then responsible for paying weeks 11 & 12. If you paid in advance, say up-to week 15, then you will be refunded for weeks 13, 14, & 15.**

**EXAMPLE 2: On week 12, you decide to quit without notifying the league; you are then responsible for paying weeks 13 & 14 even though you are no longer bowling.**

## **RULE #15: LEGAL LINEUP**

A minimum of 2 roster bowlers must be present by the completion of the 5th frame (by the opposing team) of the given game or the game shall be forfeited. When a team fails to present a legal lineup, the team bowling must bowl as though the games are contested. The team bowling must bowl within 40 pins of their team average to win points and individuals must bowl within 10 pins of their average to win points. There will be automatic forfeited losses but no automatic wins.

## **RULE #16: PRE- & POST- BOWLING**

Pre- & Post-bowling may be done on a **TEAM BASIS ONLY**. The following is a list of guidelines that pertain to all pre- and post-bowling:

- Team Captain's responsibility to notify a league officer and notify the opposing team captain, giving them the option of bowling opposed.
- If a team pre-bowls with less than a full-team, those team members not pre-bowling will NOT BE ALLOWED to compete on the night that those scores are scheduled to be used.
- If you attempt to pre- or post-bowl without a scheduled appointment or without notifying a league officer, the bowling center has the right to deny the request pending lane availability and the league has the right to not accept the scores unless approved by the Board of Directors.
- If a team, after learning their opponents are pre/post bowling, decide to bowl during their regularly scheduled match, they forfeit their right to protest the match under any circumstance (lane conditions, not properly notified, etc.)
- The secretary will provide a Captain's contact list and a league schedule showing the weekly matchups (except where position rounds take place).
- Any additional rules shall be represented by USBC Rule 111.

## **RULE #17: TARDY PLAYERS**

Bowlers arriving late and after the match has begun shall be permitted to make up missed frames providing the anchor bowler on the opposing team has not completed the 5<sup>th</sup> frame of the given game. If the bowler arrives after the completion of the 5<sup>th</sup> frame, he may complete the remaining games except for the game in progress. Tardy bowlers must pay weekly fees.

## **RULE #18: POSITION STANDINGS**

Position standings shall be determined on a won/loss ratio. One point will be awarded for each match game and match series, while four points will be awarded for team total game and team total series (equaling 32 points per night).

When bowling a match against an absent bowler, the bowler must beat the absent score plus the bowler's handicap in order to win the individual match point.

"Teams are not required to, but may match absent or vacant bowlers against each other at the discretion of the lower seeded team. When absentee or vacant bowlers are matched against each other, the individual point is awarded to the team who wins the team points."

This is necessary when a full team has a bowler run late enough (or not show up at all) against a team with one blind. Without the provision, USBC mandates going head to head which poses a problem with the unexpected blind is not matched against the known blind at the start of the match.

On the first night of bowling, the team on the left lane will set their lineup first. All weeks following, the higher seeded team will set their lineup first, with the lower seeded team having the option to modify their lineup accordingly. Lineups need to be set before the first ball is thrown. Team Captains should ensure both teams are set before starting.

**RULE #19: ROLL-OFF:**

In the event of a tie for first place, there will be a 1 game roll-off on the final night, match play scoring to determine the winner. In the event of a tie from the 1 game roll-off, an additional 10<sup>th</sup> frame shall be rolled with appropriate handicap until the winner is determined.

**RULE #20: PROTESTS AND FORFEITS**

This rule is clearly defined by USBC RULE #119 and may not be superseded by a league rule.

**RULE #21: EQUIPMENT ABUSE**

Abuse of bowling center equipment will not be tolerated. This includes, but not limited to the ball return, foul light mechanisms, computer consoles, settee area chairs and concourse furniture.

**RULE #22: RULE VIOLATIONS**

All members are responsible for reporting any rule violations to the League President for action.

**RULE #23: ALL OTHER RULES<sup>1</sup>**

Any other guidelines not covered in the bylaws shall be left to the decision of USBC Rule. If USBC Rule does not address the situation, the Board of Directors will make the final decision.

- *\*\*REMINDER – USBC RULE#50 (Eligibility) - USBC will recognize the achievements listed in this chapter bowled by USBC members participating in USBC leagues and tournaments. To qualify for recognition all provisions of the USBC Bylaws, specifications and rules must have been complied with at the time the score was bowled. (See Rules 100a and 300b) USBC High Score Awards designated with an (\*) cannot be earned while pre or post bowling unopposed. Scores are determined on a scratch basis.*

**LEAGUE OFFICERS FOR 2011-2012**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>BOB ASHLEY</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	<b>DON HUSS</b>
<b>SECRETARY/TREASURER:</b>	<b>STEPHEN HAHN</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Inclement Weather Policy – By 4:00pm the President will notify Center and the Secretary will notify league via Website Update and Email Blast. Captains are responsible for communication amongst their team.