



Spring 2023 Rules

Rule 1 – Schedule

The Kings & Queens Bowling League consists of ?? teams with the playing strength of up to four members per team. The league bowls on Thursday nights for 15 weeks beginning on **January 12, 2023** and ending on **April 20, 2023**. Practice automatically starts at **7:00 p.m. with competition beginning at 7:10 p.m.** The league bowls two 7-week halves. The 7th week of each half is not a position round; team matchups follow the regular schedule. Points won will reset at the start of each half. The 15th week of the season is the league play-off.

Rule 2 – Management

The management of the league is vested in the Board of Directors, which consists of the League Officers and the Team Captains. League Officers are voted in at the end of each bowling season for the upcoming season. A general member vote will adopt the league rules on the first night of bowling. A majority of those present constitutes a quorum.

Rule 3 – Sanctioning

The Kings & Queens Bowling League is sanctioned as an Adult League with the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) and membership is open to bowlers 18 years of age or older. The league is also sanctioned with the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO).

Rule 4 – Fees

The IGBO membership fee per league of 26-50 bowlers is \$75 (paid by the league).

All bowlers must fill out a USBC membership application card on their first night of bowling in this league, even if they have registered/paid online or in another league. The USBC sanction fee for a full year, running August 1st through July 31st of the following year, is:

National	13.00
Local (Capital Area USBC)	10.00
State	<u>2.00</u>
Total:	25.00

Weekly fees, to be paid by each bowler per night, are:

Lineage	14.25
Secretary	0.00
Treasurer	0.00
<u>Prize Fund</u>	<u>5.75</u>
Total:	20.00

Pay envelopes must be turned in to the Treasurer by the fifth frame of the first game of bowling. Bowling fees for the final two weeks of the season (weeks 14 & 15) must be **paid by the third week of bowling**. No bowler may bowl if they are more than **two weeks behind in league fees**. A bowler who is behind two weeks in fees will have their scores replaced with a zero score for the third week and thereafter unless fees are paid in full. If there is a situation where you are unable to pay your bowling fees, please talk with the President to see what can be done. Every situation will be held in the highest confidentiality.

Rule 5 – League Funds

A league account is open at AMF Pleasant Valley in the name of Kings & Queens Bowling League where funds will be deposited weekly. Withdrawals from the account can only be made with the joint signatures of two officers. A copy of the bank statement is available, upon request, to any member of the league. The lineage for the league is paid to AMF Pleasant Valley Lanes on a weekly basis. USBC sanctioning fees are collected by the league and paid to Capital Area USBC Association. IGBO sanctioning dues are paid from the league account. All weekly league fee checks must be made payable to AMF Pleasant Valley. Sanctioning fee checks must be made out to Capital Area USBC.

Rule 6 – Prizes

The President appoints a Prize Fund Committee of at least three bowlers by the third week. The Prize Fund Committee submits prize fund proposals which the league votes on during the fourth week of bowling. The winning prize fund proposal determines the allocation of awards for the season and is announced to the league bowlers during the fifth week of bowling. To qualify for individual awards, a bowler must have bowled 30 games during the season. A bowler may qualify for only one individual award and must accept the highest monetary award. If monetary awards are equal, the precedence goes (Average, Scratch Series, Scratch Game, Handicap Series, Handicap Game). A team or bowler who joins late has the option to receive full prize fund payout provided they pay the entire prize fund portion for the weeks they missed. They must make this decision at the time of joining the league and not wait until the end of the season to decide. **Teams that do not pay full prize fund portions will not receive the full prize fund payout at the end of the season.** Individual awards will not be prorated but may be divided equally in cases of ties. **Pre-bowled scores are not recognized for high scores or other awards.** All individual awards are finalized at the end of the 14th week of bowling.

Rule 7 – Averages and Handicaps

Bowlers will use entering averages for their first three games based on the criteria listed below, in order:

1. End-of-season Fall 2022 Kings & Queens Bowling League average (15 game minimum)
2. Highest USBC-certified 2021-2022 yearbook average (21 game minimum)
3. If neither of the above averages exist, the bowler establishes an average during the first three games they bowl this season.

Averages will be cumulative throughout the season. The handicap is **90% of the difference between 225 and the bowler's average**. That handicap will be applied to the first three games they bowl this season. Thereafter, the handicap is based on the bowler's current running average. Handicap Game, Handicap Series, and Most Improved awards will begin after a bowler has completed 12 games for the purpose of individual awards.

Rule 8 – Team Rosters

Team Captains will submit a roster of team members to the Secretary on the first night of bowling. The roster limit will be six bowlers. Any roster changes must be reported to the Secretary prior to the time the new team member bowls. Substitutes and new bowlers may not be added to a team roster in the final week of each half without prior approval from the Board of Directors. **No team may use a substitute or new bowler during the play-off week (15th week).**

Rule 9 – Substitutes

A list of substitutes is maintained by the league and will be posted on the weekly standing sheet. A substitute may not bowl for the same team for more than three consecutive weeks. All fees must be paid whether or not you are present to bowl. Our league will be a guaranteed league. **A two weeks' notice must be given to leave the league. If a bowler does not give notice and the Team Captain fails to notify the Secretary and Treasurer that the member has dropped, that team is responsible for the full payment of the bowler while his or her absentee score is being used.** When a bowler leaves the league without a replacement, a vacancy score is used.

Rule 10 – Legal Line-up

A minimum legal line-up consists of two team members from the current team roster. Bowlers who have pre-bowled are counted as being present for a legal line-up.

Rule 11 – Forfeitures

When a game is declared a forfeit, the team present bowls as though the games were contested. They must bowl within 40 pins of their current team average to win points by forfeiture. Points not won by failing to bowl the prescribed score will not be credited to either team.

Rule 12 – Absentee and Vacancy Scores

Absentee scores are used when a team has a legal line-up but less than a full line-up at the start of any game in a series. The absentee score is the bowler's current average minus 10 pins. **No team may use an absent bowler's average for more than three consecutive weeks.** Thereafter, the absent bowler must bowl three games in competition before his or her absentee score may be used again. Exceptions are made in cases of health/injury reasons on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Directors. The vacancy score is a game of 125 and handicap of 90. If a team roster consists of more than four members, you must use the absentee scores of the roster member(s) with the most games bowled in the season.

Rule 13 – Pre-bowling & Post-bowling

Individuals may pre-bowl. An entire team may pre-bowl only if the Team Captain notifies the Secretary and opposing Team Captain in a reasonable amount of time. This allows the opposing team to be present at the time of competition. **The team captain must notify one of the league officers before pre-bowling.** All pre-bowl games must be completed prior to the next week's regularly scheduled match date. A League Officer is not required to be present; however, a signature from AMF personnel verifying the scores bowled must appear on the recap sheet. If the opposing team is not present at the pre-bowl,

they will bowl on the regularly scheduled night. Scores from the team that pre-bowled will be revealed by the scoring system at the end of each game. **Pre-bowled scores are not eligible for prizes. Pre-bowling is not allowed for play-off nights.** Post-bowling is not allowed.

Rule 14 – Tardy Players

A bowler who arrives late may enter the game provided the first three frames have not been completed. A frame is considered complete when the bowler in the anchor position on each team has completed the frame. Frames missed due to tardiness may be made-up in this case. A bowler who arrives after the completion of the third frame may only enter the game with the approval of the opposing Team Captain. An absentee score will be used when a bowler is unable to compete. The bowler can bowl the second and third games if they have an established handicap.

Rule 15 – Points Determine Standings

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

Rule 16 – Position Rounds, Play-offs, & Roll-offs

~~POSITION ROUND: Team matchups are determined by total number of wins earned throughout the half. The team with the highest number of wins bowls against the team with the second highest number of wins, third versus fourth, and so on. The team with the most wins AFTER the position round shall be declared the winner of the half.~~ While position rounds do not exist this season, this section remains to inform future seasons.

PLAY-OFF (FINAL WEEK): The two teams with the most wins at the end of each half (weeks 7 and 14) will bowl against each other, and the team that wins 4 or more points during that competition is declared the season champions, while the other team is guaranteed second place. If the same team wins both halves, that team is declared the season champion, and will have the option of bowling as a pacer in the lowest spot. All other team matchups are determined by the position round format based on the number of points earned throughout the season. There is no wildcard team. Total points earned AFTER the play-off are used to determine final team standings.

ROLL-OFF (TIE BREAKERS): At the end of each half (weeks 7 and 14), in the event of a tie for total wins, a winner for that half will be determined by a 1-game roll-off on a neutral lane (a lane that neither team has bowled on that night). If, at the end of the 1-game roll-off there still exists a tie, extra 10th frames will be bowled until the tie is broken.

Final Standings (TIE-BREAKER): If at the end of the season teams are tied in the standings, prize funds for the tied places will be added together and divided equally among the tied teams.

Rule 17 – USBC

In cases not covered by these league rules, USBC rules shall apply.

Officers

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These rules, and other updates, can be found at kingsandqueensbowling.org.