

# Suggested League Rules

*Note: The following is a set of league rules, which may be adopted by completing the blanks and providing copies to each team. Other options may be available as provided in the rules outlined in Chapter IV of the ABC/WIBC Playing Rules book.*

*The Board of Directors is responsible for adopting the league rules before the start of the league schedule unless the league elects to have its rules adopted by the general membership. (Rule 103b-1)*

## League Rules

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Season	League name
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**rule 1.** The league Board of Directors, which consists of the officers and Team Captains, shall manage this league. The quorum for board meetings is a majority of the board. The Board of Directors/full membership (select one) adopts the league rules. (Refer to Rules 103a-b.)

**rule 2.** The league will be sanctioned with (determine which one) the \_\_\_\_\_ Women's International Bowling Congress, \_\_\_\_\_ American Bowling Congress, \_\_\_\_\_ WIBC and ABC through their local associations. The league will consist of \_\_\_\_\_ teams with a playing strength of \_\_\_\_\_.

The names of players, as well as any changes in the roster during the season, are to be reported by the Team Captain to the League Secretary before a player competes.

The league will bowl on \_\_\_\_\_ (day), for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks starting \_\_\_\_\_ (date), beginning at \_\_\_\_\_ (time). \_\_\_\_\_ position matches will be included in the schedule (refer to Rule 120). (List dates the league will not bowl; i.e., holidays, Halloween, Super Bowl Sunday, etc.)

*OPTION: The schedule will be divided into \_\_\_\_\_ (halves, thirds, quarters). If there is an unequal number of weeks, the extra week will be placed in the last segment. (If this option is adopted, see suggested league rule 18 for more information.)*

**rule 3.** League fees, which must be paid by each member each session, shall be \$\_\_\_\_\_ of which \$\_\_\_\_\_ covers the cost of bowling, \$\_\_\_\_\_ is for the Secretary's salary, and the balance of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be placed in the league treasury. Games shall be forfeited by any team whose participating members are not current in league fee payments. (Refer to Rule 109d.)

The Secretary's salary shall be paid at the completion of the league schedule

**rule 4.** The team franchise (team spot) is held by the Team Captain. They must notify the League Secretary of the team's intention to retain the franchise for the next season by \_\_\_\_\_ (date). (Refer to Rule 104b.)

**rule 5.** An account will be opened in the name of the league in the \_\_\_\_\_ (bank, savings bank, credit union or in-house banking). Deposits must be made within 7 days of receipt. Withdrawals from the account may only be made with the joint signatures of at least two officers as designated by the league Board of Directors. The League President shall verify the league account monthly. (Refer to the note in Rule 102c for more information.)

**rule 6.** A prize list, drawn up by a committee appointed by the League President, must be submitted for approval by the league Board of Directors/full membership (select one) within five weeks after the start of the schedule. (See Rule 117b for prize qualification.)

*OPTION: Special individual high series and game prizes shall be awarded in handicap and scratch categories. However, no one may qualify for an award in both. If a member qualifies for awards in both categories, they shall receive the prize of greatest value. If a member qualifies for prizes of equal value, the scratch prize will be awarded.*

**rule 7.** Entering averages of all players shall be determined in the following order:

- a. Use average established in this league last season, based on 21 games or more.
- b. Use highest average from the previous season in any sanctioned league, based on 21 games or more.
- c. Use current average from another sanctioned league, based on 21 games or more.

**d.** Bowlers who do not have a qualifying average outlined in items a-c will establish their average the first night they bowl.

**rule 8.** The league will determine wins and losses on a \_\_\_\_\_ handicap (or) \_\_\_\_\_ scratch basis (select one). Handicap will be \_\_\_\_\_% (such as 100%) of the difference between a bowler's average and a scratch figure of \_\_\_\_\_(the scratch figure should be higher than the highest average in the league) and shall not be limited.

Handicap shall be based on the entering average (see rule 7) until a current \_\_\_\_\_ (number) game average has been established. Thereafter, handicap will be figured on the current average. (See Rule 101k.)

*OPTION: Handicap shall be \_\_\_\_\_% (such as 100%) of the difference between the team's average and a scratch figure of \_\_\_\_\_(the scratch figure should be higher than the highest team average in the league). The team average is the total of the averages of the players actually bowling in a match.*

**rule 9.** A list of roving substitutes will be maintained by the League Secretary. A substitute or replacement may be of either gender. (Refer to Rule 107c-4).

**rule 10.** The minimum legal lineup of \_\_\_\_\_ players must be present before the completion of the first frame of each game. Regular members and substitutes count toward a legal lineup. (Refer to Rule 105a for minimum legal lineup provision.)

**rule 11.** When a team is bowling in a known forfeit situation, the team must bowl the team average less 10 pins per player to earn the points by forfeiture. (Refer to Rule 109e-2.) See rules 7 and 8 for average requirements.

**rule 12.** Absentee scores will be allowed when a team has a legal lineup, but less than a full lineup at the start of any game in a series. The absentee score will be the absent member's average minus 10 pins. Handicap will be figured on the average (as provided in rule 8) of absent member.

When a team has an incomplete roster (vacancy on the team), a score of 120 shall be used and such score shall be used for the basis of determining handicap. (Refer to Rule 105b.)

**rule 13.** A Postponement Committee shall be appointed by the President to grant or deny postponement requests.  
(Refer to Rules 109a-c and 111a-e.)

**rule 14.** Individuals may/may not (select one) request to bowl unopposed before or after the regularly scheduled match. Procedures outlined in Rules 110 and 111 a, b, c, and e must be followed. (Special attention should be given to Rule 111b in which a postponement must be granted to teams in emergency situations.)

**rule 15.** A bowler who arrives late may enter the game provided \_\_\_\_\_ (number) frames have not been completed. In this situation frames missed may be made up. (Refer to Rule 106d.)

**rule 16.** Team position standings shall be determined on a point basis, with \_\_\_\_\_(number) point(s) awarded for each game won and \_\_\_\_\_(number) point(s) for the high team series in each match.

**rule 17.** A playoff must be conducted when there is a tie for first place or a league decides to break a tie for any other position. The same point system used during regular league play will be used to determine the winner in a playoff. An extra complete 10th frame shall be bowled in the event of a tie at the end of the playoff series. (Refer to Rule 113a.)

When more than two teams are tied, a three-game series shall be bowled and total pins will determine the winner of the playoff. Four adjoining lanes shall be used with starting lanes selected by draw.

Teams will rotate after each game as follows:

**Lane A B C**

First Game: Team 3 Team 1 Team 2

Second Game: Team 2 Team 3 Team 1

Third Game: Team 1 Team 2 Team 3

Scores bowled in a playoff shall not count toward individual or team averages or special prizes offered by the league.

**rule 18.** At the end of each \_\_\_\_\_(half, third, quarter), a first place winner will be named and the wins and losses will start over, however, the averages of all bowlers will be continued. If there is a tie for first place in any segment, a playoff will be held in accordance with rule 17 to break the tie.

The first place winners of each segment will bowl in a playoff in accordance with rule 17 to decide the league champion.

*OPTION - Halves: If the same team wins both halves, it shall be named the champion. When trophies are awarded for second place, the two second place teams will bowl a playoff to decide the runner-up position.*

*OPTION - Thirds: If the same team wins each third, it shall be named the champion. When trophies are awarded for second place, the second place teams will bowl a playoff to decide the runner-up. If the same team wins two of the thirds and loses the playoff, another playoff shall be bowled to decide the champion.*

*(NOTE: For more information on split seasons, contact ABC/WIBC Rules.)*