

BLUEGRASS CLASSIC
2024-25 Rules

Rule I. Schedule

1. The Bluegrass Classic (the “League”) shall bowl on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. (beginning with a ten-minute practice session) at Kingpin Lanes in Jeffersontown, Ky., beginning on September 16, 2024, and ending on April 14, 2025. The League will not bowl on December 23, 2024, or December 30, 2024.
2. The first fourteen weeks of the season shall comprise the first half of the season and the second fourteen weeks shall comprise the second half of the season.
3. The twenty-ninth week of the season shall be a roll-off between the first-place teams from each half, in order to determine the season champion, and shall be a social bowl for the remaining teams with a format to be determined at a later time.
4. Depending upon the bowling format of the twenty-ninth week, the games bowled that week, except for those bowled in the roll-off, may not be used in determining the members’ final averages.

Rule II. Affiliations

The League shall be certified with the United States Bowling Congress (“USBC”) and shall be a member of the International Gay Bowling Organization (“IGBO”).

Rule III. Management

The Management of the League shall be carried out as prescribed by the USBC. In addition to the officers required by the USBC, the League shall elect an IGBO representative. The IGBO representative shall be a member of the League’s Board of Directors.

Rule IV. Fees

1. The bowling fee to be paid by each member each of the twenty-nine weeks of the season shall be eighteen dollars (\$20.00). Of the eighteen dollars fee, thirteen dollars and twenty-one cents (\$14.15) is paid to Kingpin Lanes as lineage, approximately seventy-nine cents (\$0.85) is paid to Kingpin Lanes as state sales tax, and approximately four dollars (\$5.00) is paid to the league operating/prize fund. The bowling fees for the last two weeks of the schedule shall be paid by the completion of the sixth week of the schedule. No refunds shall be made for bowling fees except wherein the Board of Directors has determined that a member is temporarily or permanently disabled and unable to bowl and the member gives prompt notice to the officers of the situation.
2. Any member who bowls and is more than two weeks behind in fees may have his/her scores zeroed and may be suspended from the League until such time as all of the member’s fees are paid in full. In the event a member is suspended, the member shall be removed from the team roster and replaced with a vacancy, or a new bowler.

Rule V. League Funds

1. League funds shall be handled by Kingpin Lanes through its in-house treasury program and as prescribed by the USBC.
2. The League’s secretary/treasurer shall keep an accounting of all fees owed and paid by the members.
3. The members are responsible for accurately and legibly recording payments made each week and verifying the payment sheet at the control desk is accurately completed by Kingpin staff.
4. In the event of any dispute regarding amount of fees owed, the controlling documentation shall be the control desk payment sheet then the payment envelopes. The secretary/treasurer will review the control desk payment sheet and

the payment envelopes and make known to the affected members, any discrepancy.

Rule VI. Prize Fund

The prize fund shall be distributed in accordance with a prize schedule which shall be submitted by a prize committee, appointed by the League's president, and approved by the League.

Rule VII. Entering Averages

1. Each member who bowled at least twelve games on the League the previous season shall enter the League with his/her final average from the previous season. Each member that did not bowl on the League the previous season shall enter the League with his/her composite average (comprising of at least twelve games) from the previous eighteen months as found in the database available at <http://www.bowl.com>.
2. Any member without a verifiable average for the previous eighteen months shall establish his/her average with the first three games he/she bowls on the League.

Rule VIII. Handicap

1. The handicap for each member shall be ninety percent of the difference between the member's average and a scratch score of two hundred twenty-five ($H = .9 \times (225 - Ave)$). Negative handicaps shall not apply.
2. The handicap for each team, in any given game, shall be the total of the handicaps of the members bowling in the game (including the handicap of any member that is bowling "blind" or "bozo").
3. The handicap for each member with a qualifying entering average (see Rule VII) shall be based on the member's entering average until the member has completed the three-game series in which the member has bowled his twelfth game of the season. Following completion of the three-game series in which the member has bowled his twelfth game of the season, the member's handicap shall be based the member's current average.
4. The handicap for each member without a qualifying entering average shall be based on the member's current average, starting with the member's first series, without regard for the number of games the member has bowled in the season.

Rule IX. Team Rosters

1. Team playing strength shall be four members comprised of any combination of males and/or females. Teams may have up to six members total from which to draw its legal lineup.
2. In order to compete in any given game, the team must have at least two members present to comprise a legal lineup.
3. Up to two substitutes may be used to comprise the team playing strength of four members.
4. Any change to the team roster shall be reported to the League's secretary prior to the team competing in any match.
5. Any member wishing to change teams during the season must seek approval from the Board of Directors.
6. New teams may join the League, provided the League can accommodate additional teams, the first three weeks of each half. New teams joining after the first week or fourteenth week shall not be allowed to make-up matches previously bowled by the League.

Rule X. Substitutes

1. Substitutes shall be allowed to bowl, provided they have completed and paid for their USBC membership application.
2. Substitutes shall not be allowed to bowl on weeks fourteen, twenty-eight or twenty-nine.
3. Average and handicap rules shall apply to substitutes as they do to regular League members.

Rule XI. Pacers

1. Pacers shall be allowed to bowl in an absentee or vacant position. Since the pacer is a non-certified bowler, the pacer's score(s) shall not count toward the team's scores(s). The score(s) to be used for the absent member or vacancy shall be handled in accordance with Rule XII and Rule XIII respectively.
2. No individual shall pace in more than two matches during the season. Once an individual has paced in two matches during the season, the individual must become a member of the League to continue bowling with the League.
3. In the event a pacer bowls in a vacant position, the pacer shall be responsible for paying the lineage amount due to Kingpin Lanes for the game(s) bowled.

Rule XII. Absentee Scoring

1. An absentee score shall be allowed when a team has a legal line-up, but less than a full line-up at the start of any game.
2. The absentee score shall be the absent member's average less ten pins. When the member has a qualifying entering average, the average and handicap used for the absentee score shall be calculated in accordance with Rule VII and Rule XIII.

Rule XIII. Vacancy Scoring

When a team does not have enough members on its team to comprise a full line-up, a vacancy score of 120 shall be used for the unfilled position(s). In accordance with USBC rule, the 120 shall be the basis for the handicap for the vacancy.

Rule XIV. Post-bowling and Pre-bowling

1. In the event a team cannot provide a legal line-up for a scheduled match, **the team may request, through the League's president, vice-president, or secretary, the option of pre-bowling the match or post-bowling the match. Requests to pre-bowl or post-bowl a match will only be accepted prior to the beginning of the match that will be pre-bowled or post-bowled.**
 2. Pre-bowl games must be bowled within the week preceding the scheduled match, unless other arrangements are approved, and post-bowl games must be bowled prior to the next scheduled match, unless other arrangements are approved. In an effort to maintain accurate statistical records, **all pre-bowl and post-bowl games must be reported to the League's secretary by 9:00 p.m. on the Sunday prior to the next scheduled match.** Reporting may be done by text message (502-751-4650) or e-mail (leaguesec@bluegrassclassic.org).
 3. No team shall be allowed to pre-bowl/post-bowl more than three times in each half of the season. Furthermore, no team shall be allowed to pre-bowl/post-bowl more than two consecutive matches.
 4. When pre-bowling or post-bowling, the team shall inform the control desk personnel, prior to bowling, that they are pre-bowling/post-bowling and a copy of the scores must be turned into the control desk with the League's name and date written on it. The team shall retain a copy and submit scores to the secretary as prescribed in Section 2 of this rule.
 5. In an effort to maintain accurate statistical records, the team shall also comply with any additional reporting requirements set forth by the League's secretary. Failure to comply with reporting requirements may result in the forfeiture of any pre-bowl/post-bowl matches.
 6. The League shall not allow individual pre-bowl/post-bowl games. Pre-bowl/post-bowl games shall be completed by the team in accordance with Rule IX.
- (See also USBC Rules 111a – 111e)

Rule XV. Tardy members

A member who arrives late may enter a game provided the opposing team has not completed the fifth frame. Frames missed may be made-up.

Rule XVI. Bowling Unopposed

Teams scheduled to bowl against each other must be in direct competition on adjacent lanes. No team shall be permitted to bowl against scores unless such bowling is pre-approved by the League's president or secretary (i.e. approved pre-bowl/post-bowl games).

Rule XVII. Bye Team

1. In the event the League starts the season with an odd number of teams, the USBC rules for league play with a bye team will be observed.
2. When competing against a bye team, a team must bowl at least its team average less fifteen pins per member in order to earn the point for each game.

Rule XVIII. Forfeitures

1. Any team that does not have a legal line-up at the start of any game and has not been approved to post-bowl the match, shall forfeit the game.
2. When a game is forfeited, the opposing team shall bowl as though the game was contested and must bowl its team average less fifteen pins per member to earn the point for the game.
3. Points not awarded for failing to bowl the prescribed minimum score shall not be credited to either team.

Rule XIX. Position Standings

Position standings shall be determined on a point basis with one point awarded for each game won and one point awarded for the high team handicap series in each match.

Rule XX. Playoffs

To determine the winner of any playoff for first place, or any other award position, a three game series shall be bowled under the same conditions and rules governing the League during regular season play. An extra complete tenth frame shall be bowled in the event of a tie at the end of the playoff series. Only regular team members who have bowled at least nine games prior to a playoff series for week fourteen and only regular team members who have bowled at least nine games during the second half prior to a playoff series for week twenty-eight shall be permitted to bowl in playoff series required for the first and second halves. Only team members who have qualified to bowl in playoff series for weeks fourteen and twenty-eight shall be permitted to bowl in a playoff series for League championship.

Rule XXI. Age of Participation

As a result of the new USBC rules regarding minors bowling on leagues with adults (which took effect with the 2019-20 bowling season), the league membership is restricted to adults (persons of a minimum age of 18).

Adopted at league organizational meeting the 9th day of September 2024.

Shawn Fritz, Secretary/Treasurer