

NATIONAL BOWLING LEAGUE BY-LAWS (2009-2010)

RULE-1: SCHEDULE -

The NATIONAL BOWLING LEAGUE shall be sanctioned with the UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS through the BETHLEHEM AREA BOWLING ASSOCIATION.

The league shall consist of six (6) teams with a playing strength of five (5) men.

The league will bowl on Monday for twenty-eight (28) weeks, commencing on a Monday in September as determined at the annual board meeting. All scheduled matches and practice will start at 6:30 pm.

The league schedule will be divided into quarters, of five (5) regular matches, plus two position nights per quarter. The quarterly schedule will consist of 3 regular matches, a position night, 2 regular matches and a final position night for the quarter.

Each team plays every other team one time per quarter, with each team being the home team twice per year. Home team during position nights will be the teams with fewer current wins in that quarter, and if tied, will be determined by coin flip.

RULE-2: MANAGEMENT -

The management of this league shall be vested in the board of directors, which shall consist of the officers and the team captains.

Two-thirds (2/3) of the board must be present to constitute a quorum.

The board of directors will review the by-laws annually and revise where necessary. Any measure revised must be passed by a majority vote of the quorum.

The membership will elect the officers at the annual membership meeting held in August (prior notification given in the banquet brochure).

RULE-3: FEES -

The amount to be paid by each bowler shall be determined at the annual board meeting.

Since the league pays the national and local dues for each member, an annual fee will be collected from each bowler and returned to the bowler at season end if the bowler is clear of any league debts. A bowler is declared to not be free of debt if he quits the league before season's end. League Treasurer is authorized to collect bowler arrearages from bowler's potential pin money.

Weekly dues are set at the annual board meeting. (2009-2010 set at \$16.00/week, plus initial dues payment)

RULE-4: SALARIES -

The secretary/treasurer shall receive a salary equal to the league's yearly bowling fees.

RULE-5: LEAGUE FUNDS -

An account shall be maintained in the name of the league at a bank (currently EMBASSY BANK) in which funds are deposited.

The president must make periodic reviews of the bank statements and the secretary/treasurer's account handbook (currently done monthly with the arrival of bank statements).

RULE-6: PRIZES -

To qualify for high league/flight average awards, a bowler must bowl seventy-five per cent (75%) of the games scheduled.

The following prizes are awarded annually:

High League Average:	\$50.00
2nd High League Average:	\$20.00
High League Triple:	\$25.00
2nd High League Triple:	\$15.00
High League Single:	\$20.00
2nd High League Single:	\$10.00

The prizes above shall be considered major prizes and due to the "equity act" only one major prize can be won per bowler.

Team High Triple:	\$7.00 per team member
2nd Team High Triple:	\$3.00 per team member
Team High Single:	\$4.00 per team member
2nd Team High Single:	\$3.00 per team member
Team Quarter Champions:	\$6.00 per team member
League Champions:	\$10.00 per team member plus plaque
High Flight Average:	\$20.00 (*)

High Flight Triple:	\$10.00
2nd High Flight Triple:	\$5.00
High Flight Single:	\$10.00
2nd High Flight Single:	\$5.00

(*) - Flight of bowler achieving high league average receives no high flight average prize.

Team individual point money:

The amount is determined annually by the secretary/treasurer after all bills are paid and enough money remains in the treasury to pay the next season's national/local/club dues.

Team prizes are eligible to any teams fielding a legal line-up.

The treasurer/secretary shall have discretion to conduct a jackpot night on the last night of the season in accordance with past years practice.

RULE-7: ENTRY AVERAGE -

Returning league bowlers from the previous season will use their previous season average as established in this league based on a minimum of twelve (12) games.

Bowlers returning to the league, who have a bowling history in this league, but did not bowl the previous season, will have their average established at the discretion of the League Board.

New bowlers will use their average as established in the previous season based on a minimum of twelve (12) games.

If no previous average was established, an entry average will be determined by the board of directors on draft day. The entry average is in effect until twelve (12) games of the current season are rolled. The entry average is used for draft purposes and as a blind score when a bowler without a previously established average is absent.

All bowlers begin the season "live", with actual games bowled counting for matches and toward season statistics.

RULE-8: TEAM ROSTERS -

The board of directors must approve the thirty (30) man roster. The secretary/treasurer should receive the names of all new candidates by mid-August.

A team captain is selected from the top six averages on the thirty (30) man roster and that average must have been established in this league in the previous season with seventy-five per cent (75%) of scheduled games bowled.

Team captains will then pick the balance of their teams from the remaining names on the thirty (30) man roster in the following manner: after team names are chosen, the captain with the lowest average gets first pick, the next higher captain gets second pick, and so on, until six men have been selected. The averages are then cross-added and the captain of the team with the lowest modified average gets first pick followed by the captain of the next higher modified team average, and so on, until six more men have been selected. The averages are again cross-added and the process repeated until all men are picked.

If a tie exists on a cross-add, the captain of the team which had the earlier pick in the previous round now gets the later pick in the current round.

RULE-9: TEAM NAMES -

All team names must be names of national baseball league teams. The captain with the highest average picks his team name first and the next lower average captain picks second, and so on, until all six team names have been picked.

RULE-10: SUBSTITUTES -

Substitute scores do not count.

Fees for substitutes are set at the annual board meeting. 2009-2010 set at \$10.00/week.

At the discretion of the league secretary: For any time the league is seeking replacement bowlers, or seeking to establish averages for new bowlers in anticipation of future roster needs, subs pay \$0/week up to a maximum of 21 games/7 weeks per prospective replacement bowler/sub, per year.

RULE-11: LEGAL LINE-UP -

A legal line-up will require one bowler to be present.

If three or more are present, no blind against blind is allowed.

If 1 or 2 bowlers are present, both teams will put their line-up down in ascending current average order, low to high with no exceptions. Points are won and lost as usual.

Blind against blind is awarded to the team with the most bowlers present regardless of averages. An exception occurs if both teams are at equal strength, then the blind with the higher current average wins the points.

Addendum - the secretary will adjust line-ups and award points accordingly if captains do not adhere to this rule. Adjusted scores will be shown to captains.

RULE-12: BLIND AVERAGES FOR “BLIND” BOWLERS PICKED AT DRAFT -

The final averages of all national league bowlers from the prior year appearing on the current year's draft roster will be averaged. This average will then establish an entry average for any "blind" bowlers selected in the draft. (2009-2010 average was 177).

RULE-13: ABSENTEE/BLIND SCORES -

The absentee bowler score will be the absent bowler's current or entry average, whichever applies, less 5 pins.

The "blind" bowler average will not be assessed any deduction of pins.

RULE-14: TARDY PLAYERS – (A.K.A. THE “SHUTTE/RENALDI RULE)

Unless the captains of both teams agree otherwise, a bowler will be allowed to make-up his game if he arrives before the completion of five frames of that game. The blind score is used for any tardy game(s).

RULE-15: POSTPONEMENTS -

A team captain requesting a postponement shall notify the opposing team captain or secretary/treasurer at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled match, except in an emergency situation where the board will determine whether the match will be postponed or forfeited. With proper notification (non-emergency), the match is postponed. A postponed match must be made up before the current quarter's next position night.

RULE-16: POSITION STANDINGS -

League standings are determined by the standard point system plus match points as follows:

One point is awarded per game to each team member who outscores the opponent matched against him in the line-up. Ties award a half point (.5) per man.

One point is awarded per game to each team with the highest pin count. Ties award a half point (.5) per team.

Two points are awarded to the team with the highest pin count per match. Ties result in one (1) point awarded per team.

There are a total of twenty points per match.

The team with the most points at the end of each quarter qualifies for the roll-offs. In case of ties, one game (total pins) will determine the winner.

RULE-17: ROLL-OFFS -

Roll-off participants are the champions of each of the four quarters. In the event that a team has previously won a quarter, then the quarter will be awarded to the team with the next highest team points won for the quarter.

Playoff pairings will be highest season points won versus the lowest season points won and second versus third. In the individual pairings, the captain with the most season team points won calls the coin toss. Winner of the toss has the choice of lanes or line-up.

Teams do not rotate alleys.

If a play-off match ends in a 10-10 tie, a one game (total pins) roll-off will determine the winner.

Roll-offs use the twenty (20) point system, except in a tie situation, as mentioned above.

RULE-18: REPLACEMENT BOWLER'S HANDICAP (PART ONE) -

This rule is applied when a bowler quits after the season starts and the replacement bowler has an established entry average, the handicap plus or minus will be the difference between the replaced bowler's entry average and the replacement bowler's entry average for the balance of the season.

RULE-19: REPLACEMENT BOWLER'S HANDICAP (PART TWO) –

This rule is applied when a bowler quits after the season starts and the replacement bowler has no established entry average.

For the first twelve (12) games, the vacated bowler's current average will be used. The replacement bowler must establish an average by bowling 12 games. After establishing an average, the handicap plus or minus will be the difference between the vacated bowler's entry average and the replacement bowler's current average. This handicap will adjust on a weekly basis.

If, at any point during the season the replacement bowler rolls an average within 5 of the replaced bowler's entry average for twelve (12) consecutive games, the handicap is dropped for the rest of the season. Otherwise, the handicap is recalculated on a week to week basis.

RULE-20: BOWLER QUITTING WITH NO REPLACEMENT -

If a bowler quits during the season and no replacement is available, the bowlers blind will automatically revert to his entry average. This will also apply for injured bowlers who will miss more than three weeks who want to remain in good standing by paying weekly fees. However, it doesn't begin until the fourth week missing.

RULE-21: AUTOMATIC BOWLER DISMISSAL -

A bowler will automatically be dismissed from the league if he misses three consecutive weeks without notifying someone (anyone) in the league that he will be returning. Captains should provide their phone numbers to their team mates and the secretary/treasurer's number is on weekly stat sheets.

RULE-22: PRESUMPTIVE PRIORITY OF REPLACEMENT BOWLERS-

Any new bowlers coming in after draft day to fill an open roster spot, whether replacing a drafted “blind” bowler or replacing a vacancy that occurs after draft day, will be assigned to the team in the draft order of the open roster spots, in the absence of a specific agreement of 2/3rds of the current captains to assign the replacement bowler to another vacant roster spot.

RULE-23: BEER ON DRAFT DAY-

Subject to available league funds, and for the purpose of encouraging greater attendance and even longer annual organizational meetings, the treasurer/secretary shall have discretion to pick up the bar tab on draft day.

The newly elected 2nd Vice President is the official Beer Schlepper at the annual meeting, as well as, at any other official meetings of the league or board of directors.

RULE-24: PROCLAMATION OF SOCIAL NIGHTS & OPEN BAR NIGHTS-

The 2nd Vice President is required to announce all Social Nights or any Open Bar Nights at least one week in advance of each such event.