



Registered Volunteer Program

The Registered Volunteer Program (RVP) is an initiative designed to ensure all volunteers who have regular direct physical or verbal contact with USBC Youth members are qualified to do so. It includes a background screening intended to identify and remove potentially harmful adults who may already be involved with USBC Youth programs, as well as make it very difficult for undesirable people to enter these programs in the future.

How the Program Works

Anyone 18 years of age or older who has regular physical or verbal contact with USBC Youth bowlers, holds a position of authority or supervision over USBC Youth programs, has an opportunity to establish a position of trust, and/or has an opportunity to build a one-on-one relationship through USBC Youth programs must be a USBC Registered Volunteer.

Specific roles or positions within USBC Youth programs require registration include all members of a non-merged youth association's board, all members of a merged association's Youth Committee and the Association Managers of both. Other positions are defined in the USBC Registered Volunteer Rules and Policies included on BOWL.com.

Bowling center participation in the RVP is optional; however, USBC encourages every bowling center to participate.

In participating centers, not every employee needs to go through the Registered Volunteer Program, only those 18 years of age and older who have direct, ongoing contact with USBC Youth bowlers. For example, the following individuals may fit these criteria:

- Youth Director
- Bowling Center Manager

Center management may request registration for other employees.

Additionally, employees who receive a "red light" do not need to be fired from their job. The RVP only requires that persons with a "red light" status not be involved in USBC Youth activities.

The association should ensure all centers in its jurisdiction are aware of the program and its benefits.

The association also should, work closely with management in each bowling center to identify the volunteers and/or employees who need to go through the background screening process. For the RVP to be most successful there must be cooperation between the association and center proprietor(s). Ultimately, however, the center has final authority on who gets screened.

Each person identified completes an online registration and pays by credit card. After the online registration has been completed, the background screening is conducted by the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI).



Upon completion of the screening, each volunteer and/or employee receives a “green light,” meaning that the individual is eligible to work with USBC Youth, or a “red light,” meaning that the individual is not eligible to work with USBC Youth.

Volunteers and/or employees who are “green lighted” receive a special USBC Registered Volunteer ID card and lanyard that should be worn while working with USBC Youth.

Individuals are not screened unless they voluntarily agree to participate. To be approved as a Registered Volunteer, an individual must also agree to abide by a Code of Conduct, which establishes rules of acceptable behavior when working with children.

Complete information is available on BOWL.com in the Registered Volunteer Enrollment and the Registered Volunteer Program Code of Conduct.

Privacy

To protect the privacy of all volunteers, whether approved or disqualified, confidential personal records are kept secure with NCSI in compliance with the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), which allows people to request copies of their own criminal history information and requires the information remain confidential.

Financial Considerations

Fees are paid directly to NCSI, by credit card, by the volunteer. Screening fees are \$20 plus an Online Transaction Fee of \$1.25. In some areas, counties or states charge NCSI additional fees to search its records and those additional fees will be passed on to the volunteer. The screening covers the individual for two years.

Some associations have paid for the volunteers and some centers have paid for coaches. In those cases, here are some suggestions for funding the program:

- Pay for all screenings out of its general fund.
- Conduct fund-raisers.
- Seek commercial sponsorship.
- Work with proprietors, who may be willing to pay for all screenings.
- Ask volunteers to supplement the cost.

Additional Information

Information regarding the USBC Registered Volunteer Program can be found on the “Registered Volunteers” section of BOWL.com also includes USBC Registered Volunteers Frequently Asked Questions.