

2012 NORTH POINTE JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

RULES AND FORMAT

1. This tournament is certified by the United States Bowling Congress (#05700) and shall be governed by USBC rules.
2. Entry is open to USBC Junior Gold Program members who have qualified for the North Pointe Junior Gold Championships. To be eligible, participants must meet all the rules governing competition from league or tournament level to the National Championships and be confirmed as a National Championship finalist by USBC. USBC reserves the right to accept or reject any participant.

Canadian and other foreign USBC Youth members are encouraged to participate, and are eligible to be USBC Junior Gold Program members and compete in the National Championships and earn scholarships. However, they are unable to be USBC Junior Team USA™ members.

3. **Entry into the National Championships is limited to 2,500 participants (unless expanded). Entries close on June 1, 2012 (unless extended).** Members of USBC Junior Team USA™ 2011 will be automatically seeded into the 2012 North Pointe Junior Gold Championships. **Entry fee is \$200 (\$50 lineage, \$75 scholarships, \$75 expenses).** Entry fee has been submitted by event coordinator for advancing athlete. 100% of scholarship fee will be returned.
4. Finalists must agree to bowl in the National Championships, or, failing to do so, agree to waive all rights. Replacements will be selected based on the order of finish at their league or tournament qualifying event.
5. Participants will be allowed to list a maximum of six bowling balls on the Participant's Equipment Registration Form. **Equipment will not be verified during Athlete Registration. Athletes will turn in the completed Equipment Registration Form when they check-in for their first squad on Monday July 16 at their designated center.** During the entire event, Tournament Management reserves the right to perform random spot checks on equipment at any time to verify the equipment meets specifications and is on the bowler's Equipment Registration Form. If a bowling ball is found to be not in compliance, the bowling ball will be removed from competition until it

can be brought into compliance. After the first squad has begun, a new bowling ball purchased from one of the host centers' pro shops (provided the pro shop verifies that the new bowling ball meets USBC specifications) can be added if the limit of six has not been reached, or a bowling ball has been deemed unusable by Tournament Management. Each participant is allowed a maximum of three bowling balls in the settee area at a time, with only one ball on the rack during competition. Athletes are encouraged to have the weight, balance, and surface hardness checked prior to bowling in the championships.

6. Qualifying competition for each division shall consist of three 5-game blocks. Total pinfall for the 15 qualifying games will decide who will advance with a 1:7 ratio in each division determining the number of advancers in the first cut. After 5 additional games there will be a second cut with a maximum 64 advancers in each division. All players who make the second cut will then bowl an additional 5-game block to determine the final 16 advancers for each division. Total pinfall will not be dropped until the match play bracket finals.

A tie for 16th place after semifinal competition will be broken by a one-game roll-off on a pair of lanes decided by the Tournament Director. Should a tie still exist, 9th and 10th frame roll-off(s) will be used until the tie is broken. Highest game for the tournament will break a tie for any position amongst the top 16 seeds. If the highest game is a tie the next highest game will be used until the tie is broken.

The finals for each division will be a 16 person double-elimination bracket. Each match will consist of 2-games with total pinfall determining the winner. The higher seed will have lane choice. The player starting on the left lane will start the match. In the event, a match is tied after two games a 9th and 10th frame roll-off will occur. In there is still a tie after the initial roll off a 9th and 10th frame roll off will continue until the tie is broken.

7. Any other ties after finals competition will split the scholarship prize. All other ties that have no effect on the overall standings or finals competition placement will be designated as such (as a tie).



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RULES AND FORMAT (Continued)

8. Competitors shall be allowed five minutes of practice on their starting lanes before each block of competition and match.
9. Competitors arriving late shall begin competition with the frame in progress. Frames missed or competitors not present to bowl when it is their turn will receive zero for that frame.
10. If a mechanical breakdown occurs during competition for 15 minutes or more, each participant involved will receive one ball of practice on each lane.
11. The next highest qualifier(s) will replace any bowler forced to withdraw after all qualifying games and prior to the start of match play. The alternate must contact the Tournament Director prior to departing the bowling center.

Scholarship money for alternate and original finalist will be equally divided if the alternate enters the finals at any time, unless the reason for change is due to disqualification. Only bowlers that make the "original" 16 athletes to the finals competition will automatically be eligible for placement on USBC Junior Team USA™.

12. **Alternates** will not be used in match play. Players arriving late for their match will bowl beginning with the frame then being bowled by their opponent. Failure to appear, regardless of cause, will constitute a forfeiture of the match; the opponent must still bowl his or her three games to advance to the succeeding round.

If a forfeiture occurs in the first round or any succeeding winner's bracket match, the player forfeiting the match would still be eligible to bowl in their next scheduled loser's bracket match.

13. Any claims for scoring corrections must be made to the Tournament Director within one hour after the completion of the block in question. All other protests must be confirmed in writing to the Tournament Director before the awards are given out.

14. **IMPORTANT:** Competitors shall provide their own bowling shirt with a "butterfly" collar or mock collar. Mock collar must be a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ of one inch. All shirts must have finished sleeves for all competition. Females may wear a sleeveless shirt with a butterfly collar only if the sleeves are finished. Only full-length pants/slacks will be allowed for all males and females during all levels of competition (i.e. qualifying, semifinals, match play). No skirts, skorts, walking shorts, Capri pants, or culottes will be allowed. Shirts with sleeves cut off, torn, or ripped may not be worn. All apparel worn by competitors shall be loose fitting and not made of denim, fleece or Lycra/spandex-like material. Jeans of any color, shorts, skirts, bib overalls, culottes, Capri pants, scooters, warm-up suits or clothes with elastic at the ankles are not allowed. No writing on, or defacing of the bowling shirt will be permitted at any time. No head covering or sunglasses can be worn while practicing or competing (hats, caps, or bandannas, etc.). **Headphones can only be used in the bowlers area and cannot be used while bowling. No cell phones can be used in the bowlers area.** The Tournament Manager must approve any/all exceptions prior to the event. The dress code will be relaxed for the Practice Sessions on July 14 and July 15 and of the North Pointe Junior Gold Championships, as well as the Survivor Tournament.

15. Competitors are not allowed to use tobacco products during competition or related events or while in their bowling shirt. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a verbal warning. A second offense will result in disqualification from the tournament and related events. Consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or use of illegal drugs by any participant at any time will result in disqualification from the tournament and related events.
16. Advertisements on apparel or bowling equipment depicting alcohol, tobacco, gambling, or inappropriate language/gestures during tournament competition will not be allowed and may result in disqualification from the tournament.



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RULES AND FORMAT (Continued)

17. Only competitors and tournament officials shall be allowed in the settee area.
18. Competitors who violate tournament rules and/or participate in conduct derogatory to USBC rules are subject to disqualification.
19. Scholarships will be awarded based on the number of paid entries received in each division (minimum 1:7) and on the position after the finals competition. The top 16 athletes will receive scholarships based on performance after the finals. A scholarship will also be awarded to the semifinalists who do not make the top 16 match play competition. One scholarship per person. All scholarships will be held in SMART #8571.
20. **Qualifying:** Altering the surface of a bowling ball by the use of abrasives, cleaners, or polish is prohibited during competition. In addition, no substances may be placed on the outer surface of the bowling ball. The outer surface of the ball may only be cleaned with a dry towel once the bowler has begun competition. Competition is defined as any time players are bowling for score. No modifications can be made to affect the balance of the bowling ball (i.e. additional weight holes, modification of existing holes, etc.).
Match Play: During the match play portion of the event the outer surface of the ball may be altered only between each round.

Penalty for first offense: Warning
Penalty for second offense: Disqualification

Junior Team USA spots will be automatically awarded by:

- Being one of the top 2 bowlers from both U20 divisions at the conclusion of the 25 games qualifying from the North Pointe Junior Gold Championships.
- Being one of the top 2 finalists in the Double Elimination Match-Play Bracket.

The National Selection Committee (NSC) will select two male and two female “At-Large Members” from the Top 16 Double Elimination Match Play. (this could also include U15 division for “At-Large Selections)

If one or both of the 2 finalists from the Double Elimination Match-Play Bracket were already an automatic top 2 bid from the Qualifying, that spot(s) will become another “At-Large Members” selection from the Top 16.(this could also include U15 division for “At-Large Selections)

21. The North Pointe Junior Gold Championships Tournament Youth Committee shall determine all matters not covered by these rules and regulations.

