

TERMINATION/RELEASE CLAUSE

To the Chief Executive Officer of the United States Bowling Congress: We, by our captain and agent, hereby make application to participate in the 2012 USBC Open Championships events listed and tender the entry fees required therefore. We warrant that we are USBC members. We agree to abide by all tournament and playing rules and regulations prescribed by USBC, including all provisions set forth on this form. We specifically agree for ourselves and any replacements chosen by or for us if we are not eligible for participation and/or cannot bowl in the USBC Open Championships, then our prize, bowling and expense fees shall be forfeited and all sums tendered by us as prize, bowling and expense fees may be retained by USBC as liquidated damages. The entrants whose names appear hereon or their authorized replacements hereby agree that the USBC, its officers and agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning entry fees, less expenses, if and when these entrants shall be prevented from bowling any event in the tournament through premature termination of the tournament, which may be brought about by war, national emergency or emergencies or causes relating thereto or resulting therefrom, fires, strikes, labor difficulties, terrorism or threats of terrorism, or other causes beyond the control of USBC. We further agree that USBC may use our names and likenesses (including video) for promotional purposes at no cost to us and with no fees being paid by us.

The entrants whose names appear on this application and/or their authorized replacements hereby agree that the USBC, and its officers and agents, shall not be liable for any injury resulting from participation in bowling in the USBC Open Championships, absent willful or gross negligence on the part of USBC.



RULES & INFORMATION

February 11 thru July 9, 2012

USBC Certified

Baton Rouge River Center
275 River Rd S
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Important Information
Please Read Carefully

Close of Reservations
December 15, 2011

BELLE
OF BATON ROUGE
CASINO & HOTEL

1. AGE / ELIGIBILITY

The USBC Open Championships is USBC certified. The game of American Tenpins will be played. Open to all USBC members 16 years of age or older at time of participation (see parental consent, Rule 21). All participants must have a current USBC Adult membership card. Captains must show a current USBC membership card for each bowler on the roster when checking in for team event. If current membership cannot be verified, a USBC associate membership card must be purchased at the tournament site at a cost of \$21.

2. AVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

The average to be used will be determined in the following order:

- Highest average from the 2010-11 USBC winter or summer season, based on 21 or more games.
- If no 2010-11 USBC winter or summer season average, the highest 2011-12 USBC winter average as of Jan. 1, 2012 based on 21 or more games.
- When a bowler's current 21 game average as of Jan. 1, 2012 is 10 or more pins higher than the previous season's average, that average must be used.
- If no 2010-11 USBC winter or summer season average or Jan. 1, 2012 average, the highest 2011-12 USBC winter or summer average as of date of participation based on 21 games or more
- Bowlers who do not meet any of the above requirements will be entered with a 220 average.
- Bowlers that have both a USBC SPORT LEAGUE AVERAGE and a standard league average from the same season shall use the higher of his/her adjusted sport average and standard league averages. The USBC Average Adjustment Scale can be found on BOWL.com, or Chapter 5 of the USBC Playing Rules.

If the submitted average is lower than required and results in a lower classification, the bowler's score is disqualified. If the submitted average is higher than required, prize winnings will be based on the submitted average. Average corrections can be made up to the end of the bowler's first game of a series (USBC 319a.)

In the case of a team of two or more bowlers, the averages will be combined to determine if the correct total is higher than required, prize winnings will be based on submitted average.

Any Classified entrant who has qualified* for a cash and/or merchandise prize of \$600 or more in the position standings prize list in any event in a tournament, including all-events, special features, special prizes and donated prizes, within the last 12-month period, must give tournament management the following information prior to participation. The name of each tournament in which they have qualified for the prize, the amount of the prize, the actual score bowled to qualify for the prize, and the prize position. (USBC Rule 319d.)

Note: * Qualified is defined as the date and time the tournament officially ended (completion of the last squad or round of competition), or payment of prizes, whichever comes first.

A Classified entrant who has exceeded his/her entering average by 15 pins over 21 or more tournament games in the past 12 months (USBC Rule 319e) he/she must submit his/her adjusted average in accordance with the rule.

A Classified entrant must report any re-rate or adjustments to averages from any other tournament or event regardless if the adjustment was accepted, or not, for participation in any event.

Failure to report prize winnings, submit adjusted average under Rule 319e or 319d or report any re-rates shall be cause for disqualification. Nothing in rule 319e will be deemed to supersede the authority of tournament management to adjust a bowler's average upward prior to bowling. For purposes of average adjustment, tournament management will use guidelines including, but not

limited to: USBC Open Championship performance, previous tournament winnings and any records of bowler performance from league(s) and/or tournament(s).

3. AVERAGE VERIFICATION

It shall be each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of his/her average, whether originally submitted by the bowler, team captain or others.

Additional verification of Average Requirements (2b., 2c. and 2d.) may be required prior to distribution of prize winnings.

4. AVERAGES - ADJUSTMENTS

The average of a bowler may be adjusted upward before participation in any event. If the assigned average is not accepted by the bowler, the entry fee shall be refunded (Rule 319c). A bowler has the right to appeal adjustments to USBC Rules department within 15 days of notification.

AVERAGE RELIEF

Bowlers wanting to apply for relief of average due to injury or disability under provisions of USBC Rule 4e must apply a minimum of 30 days prior to date of bowling. Applications for relief of average (Rule 4e) must be submitted in writing to USBC Headquarters. Please see USBC Playing Rules for information regarding Rule 4e.

5. CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

Any Captain who pays the \$225 fee and accepts the date assigned will not be eligible to receive a refund, unless written cancellation is received by December 1, 2011. (A \$25 charge will be applied to your refund.)

6. CLASSIFIED ENTRANT

It shall be each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of his/her average, whether originally submitted by the bowler, team captain or others.

Visit BOWL.com to print off average profiles. (No signature required)

A Classified entrant must report any re-rate or adjustments to averages from any other tournament or event.

All questions and disclosures listed on the green questionnaire must be answered and signed by each Classified entrant. See average requirements.

7. DRESS CODE

Participants must wear a shirt and casual slacks, trousers or jeans. Traditional collared shirts, mock collared shirts and collarless bowling jerseys are all permitted. T-shirts will not be permitted. Women may wear Capri pants provided the length is below the knees.

During participation in any event, bowlers are NOT permitted to wear: hats, sweats, shorts, skirts, skorts, culottes or zupas (pants with elastic cuffs).

All clothing must be neat, clean and in good condition.

The dress code will be enforced by designated tournament staff members. They will make judgment calls relative to dress code questions or concerns, while any questionable items or special circumstances will be addressed by the Manager on Duty.

PRIDE AWARD

In order to reward teams dressed in a "Team Uniform" USBC has created the "Pride Award." To qualify for the award, all five members of a team must wear matching shirts and pants of the same color (no jeans) when they bowl their team event.

8. DIVISION STRUCTURE

A USBC member who has not been a member of a professional organization in the previous calendar year or the current calendar year up to the time of bowling may bowl in the Classified Division. (See PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS, RULE 27, regarding participation in the Regular Division.)

REGULAR

Team 901 & above, Doubles 361 & above, Singles/All-Events 181 & above

CLASSIFIED

Team 900 & below, Doubles 360 & below, Singles/All-Events 180 & below

9. EATING - DRINKING - SMOKING

NO smoking or use of tobacco products are allowed during competition. Beverages are now available for purchase while competing at the Open Championships.

10. RESERVATION CLOSING DATE

Reservation Closing Date: December 15, 2011

11. EQUIPMENT

Bowling Bags

No “homemade” or “modified” bowling ball carrying equipment is allowed to be used. The tournament Manager on Duty will handle any questionable circumstances.

Bowling Balls

Every bowler must have a bowling ball and shoes for his/her exclusive use. Each entrant will be allowed a maximum of eight bowling balls. Only USBC approved bowling balls will be allowed and MUST have the manufacturer’s name, product name, and serial number clearly visible at all times for identification purposes. Balls must meet all USBC specifications. No alterations may be made to bowling balls once you leave the squad room for the start of competition. All bowling balls will be checked for compliance with USBC Equipment Specifications prior to the bowlers first event.

Powder

No foreign substance can be applied to bowling shoes or approaches.

Rosin/Dry Bags

No substance 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 ball leaves the squad room.

12. ETIQUETTE

No electronic equipment of any kind is allowed during competition. This includes but is not limited to cell phones, pagers, video recorders, cameras, radios, palm pilots, iPods, smokeless cigarettes, etc. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated on the lanes or inside the tournament venue. Individuals are subject to ejection for engaging in improper tactics or conduct including, but not limited to, physical and verbal abuse toward other persons.

13. FEES

Entry fee is \$45 per event per bowler: (Breakdown per event: \$24 for prizes and \$21 for expenses); All-Events - optional \$15. (\$14 for prizes and \$1 to Team USA) \$150 PER BOWLER total for team, doubles, singles and all events. If payment is not made by money order, certified check or cashier’s check, there will be a handling fee of \$12 per team.

14. FORMAT

Three games will be bowled in each event. Three games in the team event one day and six games in doubles & singles the next day. Team event must consist of 5 USBC Members and a doubles pair must consist of 2 USBC Members. Only actual scores are used. This is a scratch tournament.

15. GAMBLING

All forms of gambling are prohibited while bowling. This includes but is not limited to card playing, pushing coins, etc.

16. LANE CONDITIONING

Lanes are scheduled to be conditioned before 7:00 am, 2:30 p.m., and 8:30 p.m. squads. There is no guarantee that all lanes will have been bowled on at any particular squad.

17. LANE COURTESY

In an effort to keep squads on time, one-lane courtesy is requested.

18. LOST SCORES

In the event a game (or portion of a game) is irretrievably lost in the scoring process, the game (or portion thereof) shall be re-bowled at a time and date determined by tournament management. Should the time and date of re-bowling be refused by the participant, USBC is liable only for the return of the entry fee paid for the event in which the loss occurred (including all events entry if applicable).

19. MEMBERSHIP- See Age/Eligibility

20. PACERS

Pacers shall not be permitted in the tournament.

21. PARENTAL CONSENT

Bowlers under the age of 18 must have written consent of a parent or guardian before participation. The USBC Parental consent form must be on file with tournament management at least one week before participation when the youth is unaccompanied by a parent or guardian. If the youth is accompanied by his/her parent or guardian the consent form must be submitted prior to his/her participation. Failure to file the consent form will cause the player to be ineligible and subject games bowled to forfeiture or disqualification. (Form available on BOWL.com.)

22. PARTICIPATION

An entrant may only enter once in each event. A bowler entering doubles must enter singles.

23. PARTICIPATION RECORDS

Every entrant who supplies proper information will have a participation record established. Professional bowlers (exempt) who are ineligible to bowl in the USBC Open because of rule a or b under “Professional Bowlers” will receive participation credit when they compete in the USBC Masters. All other professional and non-professionals (non-exempt) must compete in the USBC Open events to receive participation and average recognition. These players are also eligible to compete in the Masters, however their USBC Open scores will be used for average recognition.

24. PRIDE AWARD – please see Dress Code

25. PRIZE CHECKS

- The IRS requires USBC to furnish 1099 forms to individuals who accumulate winnings of \$600 or more annually in any USBC events in which they participate (including Brackets).
- Failure to furnish a social security number (U.S. citizens) or Individual Tax ID Number (ITIN) (Non US citizens) to USBC will result in a 30% tax

reduction of the prize check.

- Prize checks will be distributed within 30 days after the conclusion of the tournament (Rule 309) unless permission is granted to extend by USBC tournament certification. Individual checks will be mailed to the team captain.
- Team captain is to distribute prize money within 30 days of receipt. (Rule 304).
- Any prize check requiring replacement within 90 days of Tournament ending will require a \$35 replacement fee.
- Prize Checks must be cashed by July 31, 2013 or prize winnings will be forfeited.

26. Prize Ratios

All prize money will be returned 100%. Prize ratio will be at least: Regular team – 1:4; Doubles – 1:3.5; Singles – 1:3.5; All-events 1:8. Classified team – 1:2.5; Doubles – 1:3; Singles – 1:3; All-events – 1:8. All captains may request an estimated prize report when registering their team. Prize report is available on BOWL.com.

27. PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS

- All USBC members are eligible to compete in the tournament except as follows:
- Any USBC member who was classified as an “EXEMPT PLAYER” on the PBA Tour in the previous calendar year (January 1 – December 31, 2011) is INELIGIBLE to bowl in any of the Regular or Classified Division events.
 - Any USBC member who was classified as an “EXEMPT PLAYER” on the PBA Tour in the current calendar year (January 1, 2012 through participation date) is INELIGIBLE to bowl in any of the Regular or Classified Division events.
 - Others who are identified as professionals or who apply for membership in any professional organization during the calendar year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2011) preceding the event and up through their dates of competition shall be ELIGIBLE to bowl in the Regular Division events (NOT THE CLASSIFIED DIVISION) as follows: 1) Not more than TWO such players in a five-player TEAM line-up. 2) Not more than ONE such player in a two-player DOUBLES lineup. 3) Each such player shall be eligible to enter SINGLES & ALL-EVENTS.

Note: IT IS THE INDIVIDUAL BOWLERS RESPONSIBILITY TO VERIFY THEIR ELIGIBILITY. The penalty for failure to comply with these eligibility requirements is disqualification.

28. PROTESTS

- Any protest or appeal concerning scoring must be made in writing stating briefly the grounds of the protest or appeal and submitted to the USBC tournament office not later than 24 hours after the game has been played.
- Any other protest must be filed in accordance with USBC Rule 329.
- All foul protests must be filed before the squad is finished and/or in the case of Doubles and Singles until the lane has been bowled on by the next squad.

29. SCALE ROOM

Scale room opens two hours prior to team squads and one hour prior to doubles and singles squads. Every bowler must bring their equipment to the squad room before every squad.

30. SETTEE

Only Open Championships tournament competitors and staff assigned to the squad in progress will be permitted in the bowlers’ settee area after the bell to start competition.

31. SLOW BOWLING

Bowlers who do not complete their competition within the allotted time may be scheduled on “special” squads in a future USBC Open. Squad durations include

march out and practice: Doubles & Singles - 2 hours and 20 minutes; Team Event - 3 hours.

32. SPECIAL NEEDS BOWLERS

Bowlers requiring aids, such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs, etc, or who are blind, must report this in writing when the form is filed so that special scheduling consideration can be arranged. Similar advance notice must be given if such a bowler with special needs is to be used as a substitute. Any bowler requesting a dress code exception must do so in writing.

33. SQUAD TIMES/ASSIGNMENTS

Team event:

2:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Doubles & Singles:

2:30 p.m. teams: 7:00 am - 9:20 am - 11:40 am

8:30 p.m. teams: 11:40 am – 5:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Doubles & Singles times are scheduled on a first come basis upon payment of Doubles & Singles events and are not guaranteed from year to year. Tournament management has the right to reschedule lane assignment and times up to the time of bowling for score. Reasons for rescheduling of lanes may include, but are not limited to; mechanical breakdowns, bowling unopposed, and technical problems.

Note: Times listed are “bowling for score” times. Squads will be brought out to the lanes as lanes become available.

34. SUBSTITUTES

- No one may bowl in this tournament except those originally entered or such replacement authorized by the team captain or his appointee.
- A “Final Schedule Notice”, to be used for making changes, will be mailed to the team captain 30 days prior to bowling. No other written form will be accepted for making changes.
- All changes in line-up order should be submitted in writing and received at the USBC Open office on site at least 24 hours prior to the first scheduled time of bowling.
- Any bowler that is replaced once competition has begun must use the higher of the two averages.

35. OTHER RULES

- Teams and/or individuals arriving late shall begin play and the scores shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. Entrant will receive a zero for all frames missed or not completed.
- In the event a team or Doubles and Singles pair is bowling alone on a pair of lanes, each frame shall be completed on one lane before the next frame is started on the adjoining lane. This applies during competition and practice.
- All USBC Certified Tournament Rules will apply, unless otherwise stated.
- Tournament management has the authority to make decisions regarding anything not covered by these rules.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit our website at www.bowl.com/openchamp

OR WRITE:

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