



**2012 USBC Queens Rules
April 19-24, 2012**

**AMF Eules Lanes
1901 W. Airport Freeway
Eules, TX 76040**

The 2012 USBC Queens is USBC certified. The game of American Ten Pins will be played.
This is a singles, scratch tournament with qualifying rounds and bracketed match play.

(In alphabetical order)

1. BOWLING EQUIPMENT

Bowling Bags

- Bags with wheels are permitted.

Bowling Balls

- Every bowler must have a bowling ball for her exclusive use.
- Each entrant will be allowed a maximum of eight bowling balls in the bowling center at one time, with a maximum of four in the settee area. Any or all bowling balls may be changed before or after any qualifying block or match.
- All bowling balls must meet USBC specifications.
- Random bowling ball checking may be done as deemed necessary by tournament management.
- Any bowler may request to have her bowling balls checked prior to competition.

Powder

- No substance, including talcum powder or EZ Slide, can be applied to the bottom of a player's shoes.

Rosin

- Once competition begins, the outer surface of the ball may only be cleaned with a dry towel.

2. CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

- A refund will be given, less \$50 cancellation fee, if written notice is received by April 1, 2012.
- A refund will be given, less a \$100 cancellation fee, if written notice is received by April 15, 2012.
- No refund will be given if written notice is received after April 15, 2012.
- Those who withdraw/cancel may obtain their own replacements. Bowlers who obtain replacements will make their own arrangements as to repayment of their individual entry fees.
- USBC must be notified of replacements prior to 3:00 p.m. (Central Time) on April 19, 2012.
- No replacements will be permitted after the tournament begins.

3. DATES AND LOCATION

Dates: April 19 - April 24, 2012

Location:

AMF Eules Lanes – 1901 W. Airport Freeway Eules, TX 76040

Tournament Entry Closing Date

April 19, 2012 at 3 p.m. (Central Time)

4. DEFENDING CHAMPION

- An allocated position for the 2011 defending USBC Queens champion will be held until tournament entry closing date. Entry fees are the responsibility of the defending champion. If the position has not been claimed by tournament entry closing, the position will be released.

- The defending champion will bowl qualifying squads on Friday and Saturday and if necessary (being in the top 64 after the first two rounds) will bowl the third qualifying squad on Sunday. She will be seeded appropriately according to total qualifying score unless finishing lower than 48th. If defending champion is lower than 48th after qualifying, she will be seeded 48th for match play.
- If the defending champion withdraws from the tournament before match play begins, she will forfeit the opportunity to compete in match play and will be automatically placed in the 48th position for match play and will cash in that position. The first two matches (double elimination) for that seed would be forfeited with the opponent still having to bowl their three games to advance.

5. DELAYS

If a delay of 10 minutes or longer occurs during competition, tournament management, at their discretion, may authorize warm up ball(s) on another lane(s) not being used for competition.

6. DRESS CODE

Requirements

- A shirt with the participant's name on the back must be worn during competition. Last or full name on a detachable name plaque is acceptable.
- Paper name plaques are not acceptable.
- Shorts and skirts must be equal to or longer than your fingers when arm is extended down by your side.

Examples of prohibited attire include but are not limited to:

- Tank tops halter tops, bare midriffs, spaghetti strap tops, hats (medical reason only), etc.
- Workout attire, short shorts, short skirts, bib overalls.
- Denim of any color.

**Bowlers will be required to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by tournament management or designee. Tournament management or designee decision will be final.

Practice Session Dress Code

- **The dress code for the official practice session will be the same as the tournament dress code, with the exception of having their name on the back of the shirt.**

Finals Dress Code

- **The 5 TV finalists will be required to wear a shirt with their name embroidered on the back. Name plaques are not accepted.**

7. EATING - DRINKING - SMOKING

- Entrants are NOT permitted to smoke or drink alcoholic beverages while participating in the USBC Queens. This includes from the start of practice to the last ball thrown for score in qualifying, match play and finals.
- Bowlers are permitted to eat a small snack (ex: power bars, candy bars, fruit) during competition.

8. ELIGIBILITY

- Tournament is limited to the first 240 paid entries received. A waiting list will be started once the tournament is full.
- All participants must be women 16 years of age or over at time of participation and have a current USBC membership. 16 and 17 year old participants must have a USBC Parental Consent Form (available on bowl.com) on file with tournament management prior to competition.
- If current membership cannot be verified, USBC associate membership card must be purchased at the tournament site at a cost of \$21.00 USD. USBC membership purchased after March 15th will be applied to the balance of the current season and next season (local, state, and national membership).
- **There is no average requirement for the USBC Queens.**
- All participants give USBC their unqualified permission to use their photograph for publicity purposes, to arrange for the telecasts or broadcasts of the tournament without cost to the participant and without sharing revenue derived therefrom with them.

- USBC Sport membership is not an eligibility requirement. However, in order to be eligible for USBC Sport awards earned in the USBC Queens, a USBC Sport membership is required. To upgrade your current USBC membership to a USBC Sport membership, the cost is \$15.00 USD. It must be purchased prior to competition and is available at registration.
- **Youth Eligibility:** If a bowler has a USBC Youth membership they can still maintain their youth eligibility to participate in youth certified competition by signing a USBC Prize Waiver (available on site). Tournament winnings will be deposited in the SMART scholarship program unless the player waives claim to her winnings. Collegiate bowlers should verify prize acceptance policies with their Compliance Offices prior to participating in the competition.

9. ETIQUETTE

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 person.

10. FEES

- \$300 per participant until Feb. 1, 2012
- \$350 per participant from Feb. 2 through April 18, 2012
- \$400 per participant onsite (April 19, 2012)

Prize fee will be paid out 100%. Prize ratio will be at least 1 for every 4 entrants.

Prize fee: minimum of \$275 per entry will go into the prize fund.

11. FORMAT

The USBC Queens is a singles, scratch, double elimination match play format tournament.

Qualifying: Friday, April 20, 2012 - Sunday, April 22, 2012

Three qualifying blocks of five games each will be held to determine 47 positions for the final field of 48 who will participate in match game competition.

- Block 1: April 20th and Block 2: April 21st - consists of all participants.
- Block 3: April 22nd at 9:00 a.m. - consists of either the top ¼ of the field or top 64 (See below).
 1. If more than 256 participants compete in the first block of qualifying, the top one-fourth (1/4) after ten games of qualifying will bowl an additional five-game block to determine who will advance to match play.
 2. If there are 256 or less participants competing in the first block of qualifying, the top 64 places after ten games of qualifying will bowl an additional five-game block to determine who will advance to match play.
 3. Any ties for the final qualifying position will result in a roll-off. (See below)
- A bowler arriving late will begin play and her score will count beginning with the frame then being bowled.
- If there is a tie for the final position needed to complete the field of 64 for qualifying or 48 for match play, one complete game shall immediately be bowled. The bowlers will draw for the starting lane, and the bowler on the odd lane will start. Bowlers shall be allowed two practice deliveries on each of the starting lanes. Failure for any bowler to be immediately available in the bowling center will constitute forfeiture.
- If a tie exists at the end of the game a complete 9th and 10th frame shall be bowled. The frame will be bowled on the same lane on which each bowler finished the game. Bowler on the odd lane will start first. This procedure will be followed until a tie is broken.
- In the event of a tie for any other position, the bowler with the highest five-game qualifying series will be placed in the higher position. Should a tie still exist, the high single qualifying game will be used. If necessary, the second high qualifying game will be used, and so on down until the tie is broken.

Match Play: Sunday, April 22, 2012 - Monday, April 23, 2012

After three blocks of qualifying, the pairings for the initial round of 16 matches will be according to a prearranged format displayed at the tournament site. Match play competition begins Sunday, April 22, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

- First round byes will be given to the top 16 qualifiers after the third qualifying block.
- Consists of three-game matches and total pins shall determine the winner.
- Double-elimination format will be used. A player is eliminated after two losses.
- All participants start in the Winners' Bracket. After losing one match they enter the Contender's Bracket.
- If forfeiture occurs in the Winners Bracket, the forfeiting bowler automatically goes into the proper position in the Contenders' Bracket.
- The order of bowling will be according to match game procedure with the bowler on the odd lane starting first. Higher seed from qualifying will have choice of starting lane throughout match play.
- Alternates will not be used in match play. Players arriving late for her match in any round 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 her three games to advance to the succeeding round. A pacer, if available, will be allowed.
- If forfeiture occurs in any round in the winner's bracket, the player forfeiting the match would still be eligible to bowl in her next scheduled contender's bracket match.
- If a match ends in a tie, a complete game will be bowled on the same pair of lanes to break the tie, with each bowler starting on the lane where she finished the match. The bowler on the odd lane will start.
- If a tie still exists after the game, a complete 9th and 10th frame will be bowled. The 9th frame will be bowled on the same lane on which each bowler finished the last game, and the 10th frame on the other lane. This procedure will be followed until the tie is broken.
- If a bowler is disabled during the match and is unable to continue, she will receive a zero for all missed frames.

TV Stepladder Finals: Tuesday, April 24, 2012

The stepladder finals will be a single-elimination format.

Positions are determined as follows:

- **Position #1** - Winner of the final round of the Winners' Bracket.
- **Position #2** - Loser of the final round of the Winners' Bracket.
- **Positions #3 - #4 - #5** Will come from the contenders bracket
 - The four (4) remaining players from the contenders bracket will bowl a three game match, all on the same pair of lanes.
 - The highest series will be seeded #3
 - The next highest series will be seeded #4
 - The third highest series will be seeded #5
 - The low series will be eliminated

Any tie for positions #3 - #4 - #5 will require a one game roll-off

If the roll-off results in a tie, 9th and 10th frame roll-offs will break the tie

- One-game match against position #5 vs. #4, Winner vs. #3 and so on until all bowlers have bowled.
- The last match will consist of winner of previous match vs. position #1 to declare the champion.
- If a tie exists, a one-ball shootout will be bowled. This procedure will continue until the tie is broken.
- If there is a change in the TV format, notice will be posted in the tournament office and participants will be notified prior to the start of the tournament.

12. LANE OIL PATTERN

Lane oil pattern will be Sport Bowling compliant.

13. PRACTICE SESSIONS

Practice Sessions: April 19

- Squad A – 1:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m. (Fresh Condition)
- Squad B - 3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m. (Fresh Condition)

14. PRIZE MONEY AND AWARDS

- Bowlers who earn prize money in the USBC Queens will be paid by check only.
- If for any reason a bowler wishes to waive the prize money, it is the participant's responsibility to notify USBC Queens staff in writing, at time of registration regarding their refusal of the prize money. If waived, the amount will be returned to the prize fund for distribution.
- The USBC Queens champion will receive symbolic awards, which include a trophy, necklace and tiara.
- The only sums to which a participant will be entitled for bowling in this tournament are those prizes or awards which may be won by the participant in this tournament.
- The IRS requires USBC to furnish 1099 forms to individuals who accumulate winnings of \$600 or more annually in any USBC event in which they participate. Therefore, social security numbers are required by IRS regulations.
- 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 are distributed at the tournament. Prize checks that are not distributed will be mailed to participants within 30 days of the conclusion of the tournament.

15. REGISTRATION/CHECK IN

- All bowlers must register/check in prior to qualifying.
- Current USBC membership must be shown at the initial check-in.

16. START OF COMPETITION - Definition

Start of competition begins with the participant's first ball thrown for score during qualifying, match play and finals.

17. OTHER RULES

Tournament management has the final authority to make decisions regarding anything not covered in these rules.

TERMINATION /RELEASE CLAUSE

To the Chief Operating Officer of the United States Bowling Congress: I hereby make application to participate in the 2012 USBC Queens event listed and tender the entry fees required therefore. I warrant that I am a USBC member. I agree to abide by all tournament playing rules and regulations prescribed by USBC, including all provisions set forth on this form. I specifically agree for myself and any replacement chosen by me or for me that if I am not eligible for participation and/or cannot bowl in the USBC Queens, then my prize, bowling, and expense fees shall be forfeited and all sums tendered by me as prize, bowling and expense fee may be retained by USBC as liquidated damages. The entrant whose name appears hereon or my authorized replacement hereby agrees that the USBC, its officers and agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning entry fees, less expenses, if and when that entrant 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 resulting therefrom, fires, labor difficulties, terrorism or threats of terrorism, or other causes beyond the control of USBC. I further agree that USBC may use my name and likenesses (including video) for promotional purposes at no cost to me and with no fees being paid to me.

The entrant whose name appears on this application and/or authorized replacement hereby agrees that the USBC, and its officers and agents, shall not be liable for any injury resulting from participation in bowling in the USBC Queens, absent willful or gross negligence on the part of USBC.