

2012 Team USA Trials Tournament Rules

- 1.** This event is certified by USBC.
- 2.** Bowlers will receive 10 minutes of practice prior to the beginning of each block.
- 3.** A bowler arriving late will begin play and his/her score will be counted only from the frame then being bowled. A player not present and ready to bowl when it is his/her turn will not be credited for any pins for the frames missed.
- 4.** Only two re-racks per game will be allowed. Any other requests will need the permission of a Tournament Official or the Tournament Director.
- 5.** No substitutes will be permitted; however, pacers may be scheduled at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director.
- 6.** All bowlers must wear suitable attire. Each athlete must wear a collared shirt during competition. Mock necks shirts will be permitted. **NO JEANS OF ANY COLOR WILL BE ALLOWED AT ANY TIME INCLUDING PRACTICE.** Dress slacks for men and skirts, skorts, dress shorts or dress slacks for women are acceptable. Skirts, skorts and shorts must be fingertip length when standing with arms down at sides. Any noncompliance to the dress code may result in a zero score for the bowler until the issue is resolved.
- 7.** Each bowler is responsible for verification of his/her own scores. Any scoring corrections must be made prior to signing the recap forms. Questionable errors will be resolved by tournament management or, upon appeal, by the Tournament Director. Protests involving eligibility, scores, or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to the Tournament Director by the beginning of the tournaments next round or by completion of the tournaments closing ceremonies.
- 8.** Players preparing to step on the approach and deliver a ball shall have the following rights and obligations:
 - a)** Lane Courtesy. This tournament will use One-Pair Courtesy. The pair of lanes to a players right and left must be empty before a player takes their position on the approach for their delivery. Alternating pairs of lanes across the house should have one player on the approach preparing to make their delivery. A player on each of the other lanes should be at the ball return preparing for their turn as soon as those on the approach make their delivery.
 - b)** Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery if the pair of lanes immediately adjacent to them on both the right and left is clear.

If a player does not observe the procedure outlined above, it may be construed as slow bowling. A player failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows:

- i.** White card for the first offense (no penalty).
- ii.** Blue card for the second offense (no penalty).
- iii.** Red card for the third and each succeeding offense in any block of games.

The penalty shall be zero pin fall for the frame. To enforce this rule, the Tournament Director will monitor the participants to ensure that no pair(s) of lanes gets too far behind the group. Whenever there is any question concerning the enforcement of this rule, or lack thereof, the final decision shall be made by the Tournament Management Committee.

- 9.** Bowling balls must meet all USBC requirements for surface hardness, weight, balance and size/number of holes. Bowling ball regulations for professional organizations DO NOT apply. Any bowler concerned with his/her equipment should have it checked in the pro shop before competition begins.
- 10.** Athletes must not smoke, consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while in competition, i.e. during the entire period of a block of games. In those instances where it is established that a player is in breach of this rule, he/she may be suspended from the tournament by the Tournament Director for that block of games. Non-alcoholic beverages are allowed, provided they are not consumed in the players' area. Any food or drink needs to be behind the settee area during competition.
- 11.** Questions not covered by these document rules will be decided by the Tournament Director.

Format

- 1.** There are separate divisions for men and women. All bowling is on a scratch basis.
- 2.** Competition will consist of four blocks with each block being contested on a different lane-conditioning pattern.
 - a)** If both divisions have 116 or fewer participants, competition will consist of 36 qualifying games in nine-game blocks.
 - b)** If at least one division has greater than 116 participants, competition will consist of 28 qualifying games in seven-game blocks.

USBC Team USA Qualifying

USBC Team USA 2012 will consist of a minimum 10 men and 10 women: A minimum of five (5) men will be selected by the USBC Committee from past Team USA members within the last 10 years or the 2011-12 exempt field of the Professional Bowlers Association Tour.

A minimum five (5) women will be selected by the USBC Committee from a pool of players who have been either on Team USA or a Professional Bowler (PBA or PWBA) within the past 10 years (since 2002).

The top three men and three women finishers in the 2012 USBC Team USA Trials, based off of ranking points, will earn automatic spots on Team USA 2012, while two additional men and two additional women will be selected from the field by the National Selection Committee.

Ranking points are based off of finish position for each block. (Example: bowler finished 2nd in first block, 2 points earned) Total ranking points will be determined after completion of all four blocks. The lowest number of points will determine first position overall, the next lowest is second...etc.

USBC Junior Team USA Qualifying

USBC Junior Team USA 2012 will consist of 10 boys and 10 girls: Six (6) boys and girls earned spots at the Jr. Gold tournament this last July in Las Vegas. The top two (2) boy and girl finishers in the 2012 Team USA Trails, based off of ranking points, will earn automatic spots on Junior Team USA 2012, while two (2) additional boys and girls will be selected by the National Selection Committee from either the 2012 Team Trials, or 2011 Junior Gold Tournament in Las Vegas.

Eligibility

1. All participants must be USBC members in good standing.
2. To qualify for Junior Team USA 2012 participants must be 20 years old or younger before January 1, 2012. Anyone older than 20 before January 1, 2012 will not be eligible to make Junior Team USA, but can qualify for Team USA.

2012 Tournament Entries

The members of 2011 Men's and Women's Team USA qualify for a free tournament entry into the 2012 USBC Team USA Trials.