

# **PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Effective January 1, 2015

The official rules and regulations of the Professional Women's Bowling Association govern competition, membership, policies and procedures for all Professional Women's Bowling Association tournaments, and tournaments conducted for others by the PWBA.

All bowlers who compete in PWBA tournaments are required to comply with the Code of Ethics and the rules and regulations as set forth in this handbook.

All rules and regulations contained herein are at the Tournament Director's discretion. Bowlers have the right to appeal a Tournament Director's decision to the Director of Operations and/or the Appeals Committee.

## **PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION Contact Information**

International Bowling Campus  
Jason Thomas, Director of Operations  
621 Six Flags Drive  
Arlington, TX 76011  
Phone: (817) 385-8200  
[Jason.thomas@bowl.com](mailto:Jason.thomas@bowl.com)

**CODE OF ETHICS**  
**of the**  
**Professional Women's Bowling Association**

**PART 1.** To fulfill the purposes to which it is dedicated, the Professional Women's Bowling Association requires its members to observe this Code of Ethics.

The name "professional bowler" must be synonymous with a pledge of honor, service and fair dealing, 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Her professional integrity, fidelity to the sport of bowling and a sense of great responsibility to employers and employees, manufacturers, clients, sponsors, all members of the bowling family and to her sister professionals shall remain paramount in her thoughts, motives or actions.

**PART 2.** A member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association shall be bound by the following standards of conduct.

1. A member shall offer courtesies and appropriate privileges to other professionals while accepting the same without abuse or any action which might be viewed negatively by any resident professional or other person.
2. A member shall make only constructive comments pertaining to fellow professionals and the PWBA, and will deal with all persons in a fair and courteous manner.
3. A member will meet all financial obligations promptly.
4. A member will always be conscious of promoting the PWBA and its programs, and encourage publicity and attendance at PWBA events.
5. A member will accept the responsibilities necessary to enhance the association by actively participating in any project or program necessary to fulfill the objectives of the PWBA.
6. A member shall at all times present an image through conduct and dress which will gain the respect and admiration of the public, and elevate the sport.
7. A member shall observe and abide by the rules, regulations and policies of the PWBA.
8. A member will be responsible for the conduct of her guests at PWBA events.
9. Professional conduct should be extended after bowling, especially while at tournament sites.
10. PWBA members are the only persons allowed to discuss any disputes involving rules, fines, tournament procedures, etc. with PWBA Officials, Officers or Staff.

**PART 3.** Penalties and disciplinary actions for violations of this Code of Ethics shall be governed under Rule 21 of the official PWBA rules and regulations.

## **Rule 1. MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

Competition membership in the PWBA is open to any woman who has achieved a sanctioned bowling average of 180 or higher in any USBC certified league.

Application for membership shall be accepted or rejected by the PWBA within 30 days of receipt of application by the PWBA office.

Applicants for membership must pay dues as specified by the PWBA and comply with all rules and regulations of the PWBA. Membership dues are non-refundable unless application for membership is rejected or denied by the PWBA.

Amateur (non-member) women bowlers are permitted to enter PWBA tournaments under terms and conditions defined by the PWBA.

### **MEMBERSHIP STATUS**

Active Member – Active member status is granted to any national dues paying member in good standing. Active members are eligible to compete in all PWBA tournaments.

Hall of Fame Member – Hall of Fame membership is granted to any member in good standing who is a member of the PWBA Hall of Fame. Hall of Fame members shall be exempt from paying dues.

### **CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Good Standing – "Good Standing" as a member shall include past and present compliance with PWBA rules, regulations, policies and standards; with any and all financial obligations to PWBA and associated parties paid in full.

Identification – All PWBA members shall present a valid driver's license or other valid state identification card with the member's date of birth and gender noted on the card. This information will be used to determine the member's eligibility for PWBA membership and events.

Parental Consent – All applicants under the age of 18 must submit written parental consent in order to compete in PWBA events.

USBC Membership – The PWBA recognizes the USBC is the national governing body of bowling. All PWBA members and tournament competitors must be USBC members in good standing.

## **Rule 2. TOURNAMENT ENTRY AND COMMITMENT**

Entry Deadline – Deadline for filing of entry to PWBA tournaments shall be 21 days prior to the start date of the tournament. Starting date is the date designated as the official practice day. Any late entries shall be assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee. PWBA may establish entry deadlines and late entry penalties in exception to this rule for special events at its discretion.

Priority for Acceptance of Entries – The entry field will be set to accommodate the maximum

number of members, subject to the number of lanes available. PWBA members shall have first priority to enter prior to entry deadline with remaining entries made available to other qualified competitors.

Obligation to Compete – Payment of entry obligates a competitor to compete in that tournament.

Right to Refuse Entry – In accordance with the rules of the sport of bowling as defined by the United States Bowling Congress, the PWBA reserves the right to refuse or reject any entry prior to the time of bowling.

Guest passes – All players entered in a PWBA event are allowed guest passes for admission to that event for their spouse, school age children under 18, parents, plus one additional guest. These will be distributed on a first come, first served basis and limited to a total number of guests that is two times the number of entries in the tournament.

### **Rule 3. WITHDRAWAL FROM A TOURNAMENT**

Withdrawal Prior To Start – Competitors may withdraw from an event up to fourteen (14) days prior to the start date with no penalty. After that date, a minimum \$50 administrative fee will be charged for withdrawal. Any notice of withdrawal must be made in writing and also confirmed by telephone or email with the Tournament Director. Any withdrawal after the start of the official practice session will result in forfeiture of entry fee. Failure to report withdrawal according to procedures as defined will cause forfeiture of entry.

Withdrawal While Tournament is in Progress – Withdrawal of any bowler while the tournament is in progress will not be permitted unless permission is granted by the Tournament Director. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

Withdrawal From TV Finals – A bowler who withdraws from a TV finals match shall forfeit the match, even if she has accumulated enough pins to win without completing the game.

### **Rule 4. PARTICIPATION IN CONFLICTING TOURNAMENT**

Exhibitions, Clinics, Appearances – To protect PWBA tournament hosts and sponsors, any member who wishes to participate in any exhibition, personal appearance, clinic, tournament or similar activity within a sixty (60)-mile radius of the tournament site either during or up to two (2) days prior to a PWBA tournament must inform the PWBA in writing. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Television Appearances – To protect PWBA tournament hosts and sponsors, members must inform the PWBA of their intention to compete in any live or recorded televised bowling program, appear in wholly instructional programs or interviews, news or guest programs. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

### **Rule 5. PRO/AM TOURNAMENTS**

#### **AMATEUR PRO/AM INFORMATION**

Amateur Entries – A Pro/Am Tournament may precede or follow the professional tournament. PWBA members are obligated to compete in the Pro/Am and will receive a free practice session prior to the start of the professional tournament. Amateur bowlers entered in PWBA tournaments may be required to participate in Pro/Am events.

## **PROFESSIONAL PRO/AM INFORMATION**

Professional Entries in the Pro/Am – All members will be present for the Pro/Am event for all tournaments and may only be excused by the Tournament Director. A player must give a twenty-four (24) hour advance notice to the Tournament Director if they need to be excused. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Withdrawal from the Pro/Am must be confirmed with the Tournament Director by no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the event. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

## **Rule 6. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULING**

Squad Scheduling – It is the responsibility of each tournament bowler to find out her scheduled squad times for both the Pro/Am and the tournament proper by checking in at the tournament site. All bowlers must report to the locker room thirty (30) minutes prior to their opening squad of the tournament. Roll will be called prior to the start of each squad of the first round of qualifying and prior to the first round of match play, and the position round. An information sheet will be posted in the locker room listing each bowler's squad assignment. It is the bowler's responsibility to read the information sheet, comply with its instructions and to be available to bowl at her scheduled starting times. Special opening ceremonies may be held prior to the start of Pro/Am squads, qualifying, match play and stepladder final rounds.

Check-In for TV Finals – Bowlers who are to compete in TV finals are required to be on the premises at least two (2) hours prior to the scheduled finals for a roll call meeting, unless an alternate time is specified by Tournament Director. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

Penalties for Late Arrival – Any player who is late for the official start time for the first round of qualifying may be disqualified. Any player who is late for the starting time for any subsequent round of qualifying must enter play in the frame and game her group is then bowling, and she will receive no score for frames and/or games missed. Any player who is not available to bowl at the scheduled starting time for any round of the match play finals when the format does not use an alternate, will forfeit all matches missed and receive no score for all frames missed.

Official Starting Time – Official starting time for practice, Pro/Am and all rounds shall be those published on the PWBA tournament schedule.

Schedule Changes – Any scheduling changes pertaining to the tournament will be posted in the locker room twenty-four (24) hours in advance. All players are responsible for checking schedule changes.

## **Rule 7. BOWLING BALL SPECIFICATIONS**

Bowling Balls – Bowling balls must meet all USBC specifications as defined in the latest edition of the Equipment Specifications and Certification Manual. It is the player's responsibility to

ensure her equipment is eligible for competition. Only balls that are on the USBC approved list and are product registered are allowed in competition. The PWBA reserves the right to check equipment for compliance at any time.

Damaged Equipment – In the event a player's bowling ball is damaged during tournament play in such a fashion that it will not meet USBC specifications, the player must notify the Tournament Director and the ball must be taken out of play immediately. (Disqualification)

Use of Abrasives on Ball Surface – Altering the surface of a bowling ball by the use of abrasives or polishes while bowling in PWBA competition is prohibited and shall result in disqualification. Use of abrasives or polishes will be permitted until a player bowls her first ball in any round of competition. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Use of Ball Cleaning Machine – Use of a cleaning machine on the tournament premises is permitted. All ball cleaners or other materials applied to the ball surface must meet all USBC specifications.

## **Rule 8. REGISTRATION OF EQUIPMENT**

Registration of Balls Used in Competition – The serial number of all bowling balls used during any frames of competition must be recorded on the player's scoring recap form. Each ball must be described accurately by the player using said equipment including make and serial number. The Tournament Director has the right to spot check balls to see that they meet USBC specifications. If a ball is found to be illegal, the player shall be disqualified. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Handling Another Player's Equipment – A player may inspect another player's equipment on the lanes, but she is not permitted to insert her fingers into the ball holes. Any player who handles another player's equipment or property without the owner's permission shall be in violation of the PWBA Code of Ethics and will be subject to the corresponding penalty. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

## **Rule 9. BOWLING BALL INSPECTION PROCEDURES**

Ball Weigh-In Prior To Competition – PWBA reserves the right to check ball weight at any time.

Ball Weigh-In After Competition – At the end of her final qualifying round, each bowler who is within the estimated score for cashing may be required to produce all of her own scoring recap copies and bring all balls whose numbers appear thereon to the Tournament Director for final approval. Recaps and bowling balls used must be presented within thirty (30) minutes of the request for approval. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Use of an Illegal Bowling Ball – Any bowling ball recorded on the player's scoring recap which does not comply with all USBC bowling ball specifications or is not PWBA product registered after competition shall result in the disqualification of the player from the tournament, forfeiture of all points and prize monies earned from the tournament. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

## **Rule 10. PRACTICE SESSIONS**

Free Practice Session – The host center will make the tournament lanes available on a day and at a time specified by the PWBA for a free practice session, which shall be available to all bowlers entered in the tournament.

Other Practice Sessions – All tournament bowlers are required to pay for all lines of bowling in any other practice prior to the tournament. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

After tournament competition begins, bowlers may practice any time there are lanes available that are not being used for competition, even if the lanes are dressed with the tournament condition, with the approval of the Tournament Director.

Players who are still competing in the tournament may not practice on a competition pair after tournament competition begins. (Disqualification, Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

Stepladder finalists will be permitted to practice in the center on the day of TV finals on any pair except the TV pair and alternate pairs. (Disqualification, Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

Warm-Up – The warm-up period will consist of ten (10) minutes of practice on the starting pair of lanes immediately prior to the start of each round.

An alternative warm-up because of delay between games in any one session may be made at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Warm-up period for match play will consist of ten (10) minutes of practice on the starting pair of lanes prior to each round.

Stepladder Final Procedures – During the stepladder finals, players will follow the television practice procedures as follows.

All players will have fifteen (15) minutes of practice on the TV pair. Seeds 1 and 2 will begin practice five (5) minutes prior to players seeded 3 and 4. A warm-up pair will be designated for use by the Tournament Director.

The higher seed will have choice of lane at the beginning of each match. The player on the left lane will bowl first.

Incoming bowlers will be allowed a maximum of three (3) balls on each lane prior to the start of a match.

The winner of each match will only be permitted to practice on the alternate lane/pair. The advancing player will not get any practice shots on TV pair between matches.

A maximum of two (2) re-racks are allowed per game. Additional re-racks must be approved by the Tournament Director.

Apparel must meet the requirements of Rules 17, 22 and 23. Personal listening devices are not permitted during any telecasts.

## **Rule 11. SPECIAL RULINGS**

Breakdown or Delay – In case of a breakdown or delay, the Tournament Director will make a decision regarding the continuation or rescheduling of games. The Tournament Director shall have complete discretion regarding warm-up shots following a breakdown of ten (10) minutes or longer. The timing will begin when the Tournament Director is notified.

Whenever a breakdown requires moving to a pair of lanes not previously used in the tournament, each player required to move to the pair will receive two (2) practice balls on each lane. Subsequent players moving to that pair will also receive two (2) practice balls on each lane.

Interrupted Tournament – The following procedures will be in effect should events occur at the host bowling center which significantly delay the tournament.

Every effort will be made to complete the tournament in its entirety at the host center. The tournament must be completed no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the originally scheduled conclusion for the event. If circumstances preclude conclusion of the event within this timeframe, PWBA will complete as much of the tournament as possible. Format and times may be adjusted by the Tournament Director if necessary.

If circumstances require cancellation of the tournament prior to its scheduled conclusion, the prize list available will be paid according to the standings following the last fully completed round. If television finals are required by contract, the seeded players to advance to the TV finals will be determined by position at the point of termination.

If an alternative bowling center is used to complete the tournament, the tournament will be resumed from the last fully completed frame. If scores are not available, the tournament will be resumed from the last fully completed round.

Under these circumstances, the Tournament Director's decision shall be final.

Ruling on Pinfall – All pinfall must be scored. A tournament official must be called to authorize a dead ball. The following constitutes a dead ball:

- Any pins missing from a rack.
- Bowling on the wrong lane.
- USBC rules will apply.

The Tournament Director shall settle any dispute arising over whether the machine knocked over the pins or whether it fell out of its own accord.

A request for a dead ball because of interference may be made through the Tournament Director and must be made immediately following the disputed shot. Any interference with the ball itself is considered a dead ball. NOTE: Visual or audio interference will not be considered or awarded at any time. Judgment of interference will be at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director.

Fouls – USBC rules regarding fouls will be followed. Should at any time during the shot the foul light flash, it must be scored as a foul. If the player wishes to protest the foul, a ruling by the Tournament Director must be called for by the end of the game. The Tournament Director's decision shall be final.



In the event of an intentional foul, the Tournament Director must be notified immediately. The player shall receive no pinfall for that delivery and shall receive no further deliveries in that frame. An intentional foul is a foul caused by anything unnatural to a normal delivery and done intentionally, such as kicking at the foul line. If in the act of fouling intentionally the player's action is deemed conduct unbecoming a professional, she will be subject to the penalties provided for this offense. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

Authorized Personnel – Only authorized personnel will be permitted in the bowlers' area during competition. Coaches and/or manufacturer's representatives are permitted in the bowlers' area only during practice.

Players not scheduled on that squad will not be permitted in the bowlers' area. Players on the oncoming squad are not permitted to enter the bowlers' area until their starting pair and the adjacent pairs have completed their competition. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Re-racks – Players will be allowed a maximum of two (2) re-racks per game during qualifying and match play. Additional re-racks may be requested from the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director will grant additional re-racks if he/she feels the rack is not spotted properly. Any player who takes additional re-racks during a game without permission from the Tournament Director will be given zero (0) for the frame.

Players are required to place a check mark on their own scoring recap forms for each re-rack taken next to the game number and notify other bowlers on her pair for verification.

Tie for Position and Subsequent Roll-off – In case of a tie after the qualifying rounds, the bowler with the highest block will be given the higher position. If there is still a tie, then the bowler with the second highest block be given the higher position. In the event that all blocks are equal, high game will be used. If a tie for a position results in a roll-off, the player with the high block will be given the option on who starts the match.

A tie after qualifying for the last match play position or the alternate position (if an alternate will be used) will require a one (1) game roll-off. Should that match result in a tie, a 9th and 10th frame roll-off will be used until the tie is broken. Players will start where they finished and the left lane will bowl first.

In case of a tie in the position round, the bowler with the highest total actual pinfall prior to position round game will be awarded the higher position. If total actual pins are equal, revert to high block rule for qualifying.

Ties for TV positions will consist of a one game roll-off, to be contested on lanes other than the two pairs bowled on by the two players in their last two (2) games. Pair will be determined by a draw with a minimum of three (3) pairs in the draw. The player with the second highest total pinfall will draw for the roll-off pair. The player with the highest total pinfall will have choice of starting lane and order. If the total actual pins are equal, revert to high block rule for qualifying. Bowlers will be allowed two (2) practice shots on each lane.

If a stepladder finals match ends in a tie, a one ball roll-off will be bowled on the same pair of lanes to break the tie, with each bowler starting on the lane where they finished the match. Should a tie exist after the first ball and/or subsequent balls, the bowlers will continue to switch lanes until the tie is broken. The bowler on the odd lane will start.

Incentive Offers – All incentive offers must be approved by the PWBA. Incentive offers shall be construed as anything of value. All incentive offers must be made available to the entire tournament field. All incentive offers will become effective as soon as posted in the locker room by the PWBA.

Rules and Regulations – USBC playing rules and regulations shall govern all competition unless modified by PWBA rules.

## **Rule 12. PRIZE FUND**

Prize Distribution – Distribution of prize money will be as published in official tournament literature. An appropriate trophy shall be awarded to the champion.

Revision of Prize List – If required for unforeseen circumstances, the prize list for the tournament may be revised. It shall be the duty of the Tournament Director to revise the prize list to conform as closely as possible to the original prize list.

Split of Tie Position – In the event of a tie for any cash position other than first place, the money shall be divided equally for the positions tied except for positions which specifically call for a roll-off.

## **Rule 13. SUBSTITUTION OF ALTERNATE PLAYER**

Substitution Procedures – The alternate player may enter the tournament in place of a match play finalist at the discretion of the Tournament Director in the case of injury, sickness or emergency, subject to the following procedures.

When the alternate enters the tournament, she must carry her own qualifying total into play. If the alternate enters after play has commenced, the following amount will be deducted from the total of the player the alternate replaces: the difference between their qualifying scores plus any bonus pins won by the original player. The alternate then will assume the net score at that point.

Whenever the alternate enters the match play finals, the prize money will be split evenly with the player she replaces. Each player retains her own actual pinfall and match play record for statistical purposes.

In the case of a tie for the alternate position for match play, the player with the highest qualifying block score will be given the alternate position.

The player finishing in the alternate position must inform the Tournament Director within fifteen (15) minutes of the announcement that she will accept the alternate position. The alternate must be present at all roll calls and remain on the premises through all frames of match play competition, and be prepared to bowl if required. The alternate must be dressed in bowling attire and ready to bowl at all times during match play.

If a player voluntarily declines to serve as alternate, she shall relinquish her alternate's fee and be replaced by the next available player based upon finish position.

Alternate for TV Finals – There will be no alternate to TV finals in PWBA tournaments.

Warm-up When Entering – If the format calls for an alternate, the alternate entering match play will not receive any practice shots.

#### **Rule 14. PWBA COMPETITION POINTS SYSTEM**

Competition Points: Standard Event – Competition points shall be awarded to PWBA members for final finishing position in each PWBA tournament according to the following table.

Competition Points: Standard Event							
Pos	Points	Pos	Points	Pos	Points	Pos	Points
1	15,000	13	6,250	25	3,700	37	1,420
2	12,000	14	6,000	26	3,600	38	1,400
3	10,000	15	5,750	27	3,500	39	1,380
4	9,000	16	5,500	28	3,400	40	1,360
5	8,500	17	4,500	29	3,300	41	1,340
6	8,000	18	4,400	30	3,200	42	1,320
7	7,750	19	4,300	31	3,100	43	1,300
8	7,500	20	4,200	32	3,000	44	1,280
9	7,250	21	4,100	33	1,500	45	1,260
10	7,000	22	4,000	34	1,480	46	1,240
11	6,750	23	3,900	35	1,460	47	1,220
12	6,500	24	3,800	36	1,440	48	1,200

The player in 49<sup>th</sup> position shall receive 1,180 points. Each competitor finishing in 50<sup>th</sup> place or lower shall receive 20 points less than the previous finisher. (50<sup>th</sup> place receives 1,160 points, etc.) All players finishing in 98<sup>th</sup> place or lower shall receive 200 points.

Competition Points: USBC Queens – Competition points shall be awarded to PWBA members for final finishing position in the USBC Queens according to the following table.

Competition Points: USBC Queens					
Pos	Points	Pos	Points	Pos	Points
1	22,500	13	8,500	25	5,000
2	18,000	14	8,500	26	5,000
3	15,000	15	8,500	27	5,000
4	13,500	16	8,500	28	5,000
5	12,750	17	7,000	29	5,000
6	12,000	18	7,000	30	5,000
7	11,500	19	7,000	31	5,000
8	11,500	20	7,000	32	5,000
9	10,000	21	7,000	33	3,000
10	10,000	22	7,000		
11	10,000	23	7,000		
12	10,000	24	7,000		

The player in 34<sup>th</sup> position shall receive 2,950 points. Each competitor finishing in 35<sup>th</sup> place or lower shall receive 50 points less than the previous finisher down to 64<sup>th</sup> place. The player in 64<sup>th</sup> position shall receive 1,450 points. Each competitor finishing in 65<sup>th</sup> place or lower shall receive 30 points less than the previous finisher down to 98<sup>th</sup> place. All players finishing in 98<sup>th</sup> place or lower shall receive 300 points.

Competition Points: U.S. Women's Open – Competition points shall be awarded to PWBA members for final finishing position in the U.S. Women's Open according to the following table.

Competition Points: U.S. Women's Open					
Pos	Points	Pos	Points	Pos	Points
1	22,500	13	9,375	25	5,000
2	18,000	14	9,000	26	4,800
3	15,000	15	8,625	27	4,700
4	13,500	16	8,250	28	4,600
5	12,750	17	7,875	29	4,500
6	12,000	18	7,500	30	4,400
7	11,625	19	7,125	31	4,300
8	11,250	20	6,750	32	4,200
9	10,875	21	6,375	33	3,000
10	10,500	22	6,000		
11	10,125	23	5,625		
12	9,750	24	5,250		

The player in 34<sup>th</sup> position shall receive 2,950 points. Each competitor finishing in 35<sup>th</sup> place or lower shall receive 50 points less than the previous finisher. (35<sup>th</sup> place receives 2,900 points, etc.) All players finishing in 99<sup>th</sup> place or lower shall receive 300 points.

Competition Points: Tour Championship – Competition points shall be awarded to PWBA members for final finishing position in the Tour Championship according to the following table.

Competition Points:
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Tour Championship			
Pos	Points	Pos	Points
1	22,500	13	5,000
2	18,000	14	5,000
3	15,000	15	5,000
4	13,500	16	5,000
5	10,000		
6	10,000		
7	7,500		
8	7,500		
9	7,500		
10	7,500		
11	5,000		
12	5,000		

Points for Tied Positions – Players tied for any position shall split the points equally for the two positions for which they are tied.

Points for Alternate – If the alternate replaces an original finalist, the alternate shall receive credit for the final standing position and competition points awarded for that finish position. The original player will be awarded points for the alternate's original finishing position.

Point Standings – Competition points shall accumulate throughout the calendar year, updated at the conclusion of each tournament. The PWBA competition points champion will be based upon total points earned from January 1 through December 31.

## **Rule 15. CONDUCT OF TOURNAMENT PLAYERS**

Governing Conduct At All Times – All tournament bowlers must at all times conduct themselves in a professional manner, not only in PWBA events, but in all other tournaments and appearances on behalf of the PWBA. Any public criticism that, in the opinion of the Tournament Director, defames the integrity of the PWBA, its members, officers or staff, shall be a Code of Ethics violation.

Complaints – All complaints must be registered in writing to the Tournament Director or such person authorized by the PWBA. Players are prohibited from registering complaints with the host proprietor, his staff, news media, and any local tournament representatives or to the tournament sponsor's representatives. Penalty is a violation of the Code of Ethics.

Conduct Unbecoming a Professional – Any tournament bowler who publicly discusses the sponsor, host center or personnel, lane conditions or pins, PWBA or its staff, or her fellow professionals in an unfavorable manner, or who otherwise engages in actions unbecoming a professional, will be considered to be in violation of the Code of Ethics.

Failure to Meet Financial Obligations – Any payment made to PWBA or to any host center by check or credit card which is returned or refused for insufficient funds, or canceled by a stop payment order, shall result in the suspension of all membership privileges until full restitution is made by the player. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

Subsequent offenders will be subject to penalty and future tournament entries, dues, etc. must be paid for in cash, money order or by credit card for a probation period of one (1) year following the second offense.

Lane Courtesy – Competitors must observe one (1) pair lane courtesy at all times. Bowlers may not “double jump”. Double jumping occurs following a delivery when a competitor on the same pair delivers her ball before one (1) competitor from the pair to the right and one (1) competitor from the pair to the left have made a delivery, unless those competitors are not ready to bowl or give way.

Slow Bowling – A bowler has twenty-five (25) seconds to start her delivery, once the lane courtesy rule has been satisfied. Slow bowling penalties shall be assessed at the Tournament Director’s discretion. Generally, slow bowling penalties will be assessed if a player (or players) fall three (3) or more frames behind the pair they are following. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Refusal to Bowl – A player who refuses to bowl when it is her turn shall be disqualified from the tournament. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Gambling – Wagering, including card or dice playing, is not permitted under any circumstances. Players may enter brackets run and/or sanctioned by the PWBA. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Alcohol and/or Controlled Substances – Any bowler who competes under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance other than professionally prescribed medication in violation of federal, state or municipal law or restrictions set by the host bowling center, shall be in violation of the PWBA Code of Ethics and subject to ejection from the tournament and host center.

Consumption of alcoholic beverages at any time from the first ball a player throws in a block (including practice and Pro/Ams) to the last ball a player throws in that same block is prohibited. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Consumption of alcoholic beverages is also not allowed by any tournament bowler or PWBA staff member during practice, Pro/Ams or competition. (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Smoking – Smoking is not allowed by any player while participating in Pro/Ams, practice sessions or tournament competition. (Tournament competition is defined as the time period from the beginning to the end of each qualifying round and the beginning to the end of each match play round). (Major Penalty will be assessed.)

Bowlers Settee Area – All tournament bowlers are required to remove any tape, powder, or other trash from the bowlers’ area once their competition is completed. Rosin bags, hand conditioner, and tape may not be placed on hand dryers. Rosin bags, hand conditioner or any other powder substances are to be placed on a towel as a consideration to other bowlers and the host bowling center. No foreign substances shall be allowed on or near the approach under any circumstances. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Assistance Carrying Equipment – Only tournament bowlers are permitted to carry equipment into or out of the locker room, and into or out of the settee area. If a person is assisting in the carrying of equipment, the bowler must remove the equipment herself from restricted areas and equipment must be carried only through areas open to the public. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Sale of Equipment – Players may not sell any used equipment within the host bowling center unless sold directly to the host pro shop or proprietor. Equipment may be given away. (Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

## **Rule 16. LOCKER ROOM RULES**

Equipment Storage – All bowling balls, shoes and other equipment must be bagged or boxed. All bags and boxes must be labeled with player's name. Failure to properly identify bags or boxes shall result in the removal of the equipment from the locker room. Bags must be zipped and boxes closed. All equipment must be placed in areas marked or specifically provided. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Ball Limit in Locker Room – Each player will be allowed to keep a maximum of twelve (12) bowling balls in the locker room at any time. Any excess balls that have not been approved by the Player Services Representative shall be removed from the locker room. Ball limit restrictions will be enforced by the Tournament Director. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Security – Wherever possible, the locker room will be locked one (1) hour after the end of competition each day and opened one (1) hour prior to the start of each day's competition. A key will be left at the host center counter and obtainable to all players needing to enter the locker room.

Trash Disposal – Tournament bowlers are required to remove all trash and maintain the area where their equipment is stored in a clean and orderly fashion. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Access to the Locker Room – Only tournament bowlers, PWBA staff members and ball company representatives are permitted to enter the locker room and use all equipment.

## **Rule 17. WEARING APPAREL AND LOGO PLACEMENT**

Name on Shirts – Members shall wear their required jerseys at all times during competition. All tournament bowlers are required to wear their last names (first and last name is recommended) in lettering a minimum of one (1) inch high and a maximum of three (3) inches high, on the back of shirts during all tournament play. Hand-printed lettering is not permitted. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Lettering of names must be legible and in good taste in the opinion of the Tournament Director. Removable name plaques with embroidered lettering are not permitted.

Lettering must be in contrasting color to backing (light on dark, or dark on light material) so it can be easily read from a distance.

PWBA Logo – PWBA members must wear the PWBA logo on the right sleeve of their shirts, however, the PBA logo may be substituted for the PWBA logo, with the exception of the televised portions of PWBA events.

PWBA Sponsor Logos – PWBA members must wear any required sponsor patches or logos when mandated by the PWBA.

Commercial Logos – Small fashion logos or the logos of companies or organizations that a PWBA member endorses (or with whom they are affiliated) may be worn during competition, provided:

1. The company is not a direct competitor of any PWBA, USBC or BPAA sponsor, advertiser, charity or business partner.
2. The wearing of the company logo does not violate any third party agreements of the PWBA, USBC or BPAA, including television agreements.
3. The company is not involved in the manufacture or sale of goods that are distributed either solely or primarily through the bowling industry retail channel.
4. The company's business or logo design is deemed appropriate for display in PWBA competition.
5. The logo meets all of the size, color and placement requirements of the PWBA's logo placement guidelines.
6. The wearing of the logo does not violate any known copyrights or licenses held by a third party.
7. The member receives written permission from the PWBA to wear the logo (with the exception of small fashion logos, which are approved provided they meet the above criteria).

(Minor Penalty will be assessed.)

Logo Guidelines for Dye-Sublimated Jerseys –

1. **Left Sleeve Logo Location** – The left sleeve has three (3) approved positions (upper, middle and lower or a combination of any two) reserved for PWBA-registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA-approved commercial logos.
2. **Right Sleeve Logo Location** – The right sleeve of the shirt shall be reserved for use by the PWBA and/or PBA.
3. **Left and Right Chest Logo Location** – The upper front of the shirt will carry four (4) approved positions (upper/lower right chest and upper/lower left chest) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA approved commercial logos. The upper and lower logo positions may be combined to accommodate one logo not to exceed twelve square inches.
4. **Center Chest Logo Location** – The center chest will carry two (2) approved positions (upper chest and lower chest) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA approved commercial logos. Two (2) logo positions may also be combined to accommodate one (1) logo not to exceed 12 square inches wide.
5. **Abdomen Logo Location** – The abdomen will carry three (3) approved positions (left, center, right) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA approved commercial logos.
6. **Side Logo Location** – The front side will carry two (2) approved positions (left vertical and right vertical) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA approved commercial logos.
7. **Front of Collar Logo Location** – The collar will carry two (2) approved positions (right and left) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA approved commercial logos.
8. **Back Logo Location** – The back will carry four (4) approved positions (yoke, upper, center and lower back)) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual



sponsors and/or PWBA approved commercial logos. Two (2) logo positions may also be combined to accommodate one (1) logo not to exceed 12 square inches wide.

9. **Back of Collar Logo Location** - The collar will carry one (1) approved position (back) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA approved commercial logos.

NOTE: Combining any two (2) logo positions into one (1) logo shall count as two (2) logos. Combined sleeve and upper chest logos may not exceed twelve (12) square inches or the designated logo space(s).

#### Logo Guidelines for Non Dye-Sublimated Jerseys –

1. **Left Sleeve Logo Location** – The left sleeve will carry three (3) approved positions (upper, middle, lower or a combination of any two) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PWBA-approved commercial logos.
2. **Right Sleeve and Yoke Logo Locations** – The right sleeve of the shirt shall be reserved for use by the PBA.
3. **Left and Right Chest Logo Location** – The upper front of the shirt will carry four (4) approved positions (upper/lower right chest and upper/lower left chest) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsors and/or PBA approved commercial logos. The upper and lower logo positions may be combined to accommodate one logo not to exceed twelve square inches.
4. **Center Chest Logo Location** – Positions not approved for non-dye-sublimated shirts.
5. **Abdomen Logo Location** – Positions not approved for non-dye-sublimated shirts.
6. **Front of Collar Logo Location** – The front collar will carry two (2) approved positions (right and left) reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsor logos and/or PBA approved commercial logos.
7. **Side Logo Location** – Positions not approved for non-dye-sublimated shirts.
8. **Back Logo Location** – Positions not approved for non-dye-sublimated shirts.
9. **Back of Collar Logo Location** – The rear center collar location reserved for product registered manufacturer logos, individual sponsor logos and/or PWBA approved commercial logos.

National Flag Patches – The national flag of any member's home country may be substituted for any approved logo position.

Network Logos – Competitors may not wear the logo of any television network unless authorized by the PWBA.

Bowling Pro Shop or Business Logo – The logo of any bowling pro shop or business owned or staffed by a member may be worn. Logo may not exceed six (6) square inches in size.

Protruding Items – Tournament bowlers are not permitted to have anything hanging or protruding from their apparel while bowling.

Appearance Guidelines – Appearance guidelines will apply to all tournament bowlers, members or amateurs for PWBA tournament play, Pro/Ams, official practice sessions, informal practice sessions, and any appearance on behalf of the PWBA.

Competitors may wear dress slacks, capris, shorts, skirts or skorts. Length of skirt, skorts or shorts must be below the bowler's fingertips when they are standing and their arms are hanging down at their side. No denim or patch pockets are permitted.

A bowler's clothing shall be neat, appropriate and clean, and the bowler shall present a neat appearance in both clothing and personal grooming. All bowlers must be in acceptable attire when they are in the tournament bowling center, except when bringing in or removing equipment prior to the start of the tournament and at its conclusion. Blue jeans or sweatpants are not permitted except during loading and unloading of equipment. All tournament bowlers must be prepared to be photographed or interviewed on television at any time during the tournament, including practice sessions and Pro/Ams. The Tournament Director shall have discretion to approve or reject questionable apparel. (Infraction will be assessed.)

### **Rule 18. PWBA PLAYER, ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

Player of the Year – The official award to be known as the PWBA Player of the Year shall be determined annually by competition points. PWBA Player of the Year must be a member of PWBA in good standing.

Rookie of the Year – The official award to be known as PWBA Rookie of the Year shall be determined annually by competition points. Eligibility criteria shall include:

- A candidate may not have bowled in eight (8) or more PWBA tournaments after 2015, including the USBC Queens and the U.S. Women's Open.
- A candidate may not have bowled in three (3) or more tournaments in a single PWBA season as a member.

### **Rule 19. SCORING**

Scoresheet – Each player is responsible for her own scoresheet and, as a courtesy, the scoresheet of the player in the adjacent clockwise position on the pair (i.e. A is responsible for C, C for D, D for B and B for A). After each game, player's scores and her plus or minus total must be entered on her scoresheet. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Players must sign their own scoresheet at the conclusion of each block as well as the scoresheet of the adjacent clockwise bowler. At the conclusion of the game, the player who finishes first is responsible for recording all scores for the players on the pair. Players are responsible for ensuring that their, as well as the adjacent clockwise bowler's game, total and plus-minus scores are correct. (Infraction will be assessed.)

Players have thirty (30) minutes after the completion of a squad or until the round summary sheet is posted, whichever occurs first, to make any correction on a scoresheet without penalty.

If a bowler intentionally rips or crumples her scoresheet, she is subject to a scoresheet fine. (Minor Penalty is assessed.)

No Score – If a score is not filled in on a player's score sheet and is not retrievable by computer or manually, the player shall receive a score of zero (0) for that game.

Altering Score – Any player found to be altering her scores for an advantage will be immediately disqualified from that tournament and also subject to a Code of Ethics violation.

## **Rule 20. LANE MAINTENANCE**

A fair, equitable and uniform lane condition for all tournament lanes is the primary objective of the PWBA lane conditioning program. Basic lane maintenance information will be posted in the locker room prior to the start of the tournament.

It is prohibited to discuss lane maintenance procedures with lane maintenance personnel at any time during a tournament. No member shall make any public statement concerning lane maintenance procedures, lane conditions or lane maintenance personnel. Penalty shall be a violation of the PWBA Code of Ethics. The lane maintenance personnel shall not be harassed, intimidated or criticized by any bowler. Any complaint regarding lane maintenance must be made to the Tournament Director.

If there is a change in lane maintenance procedures after the official practice session and before the start of the tournament, the Tournament Director will inform the players at roll call.

## **Rule 21. INFRACTIONS, FINES AND PENALTIES**

Specified Violations, Fines – Violations of PWBA rules and penalties specified previously within PWBA's Official Rules and Regulations shall be enforced by PWBA. Fines and penalties not specified in an individual rule will be invoked under the definitions set forth as follows.

Infractions – Players who accumulate more than three (3) infractions in a twelve (12) month period will be assessed a Minor Penalty.

Minor Penalties – Players who accumulate more than three (3) Minor Penalties in a twelve (12) month period will be subject to a one (1) tournament suspension.

Major Penalties – Players who are assessed a Major Penalty will be subject to a minimum one (1) tournament suspension. The Tournament Director will have sole discretion in determining the length of the suspension.

Right of Appeal – A bowler may appeal an infraction or a penalty within seven (7) days of notification of the infraction or penalty to the Director of Operations. A bowler who has formally appealed her penalty shall retain her competition privileges pending final decision. If the penalty is upheld, the penalized bowler must serve her suspension at the next tournament following that decision.

## **Rule 22. PWBA APPROVED PRODUCTS**

The Professional Women's Bowling Association organizes and conducts professional bowling tournaments for women under rules, regulations and policies established by the United States Bowling Congress and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America.

PWBA or its assignees have the exclusive right to advertise and promote all PWBA events and

activities and further have the right to regulate, control and market the use of PWBA names, trademarks and logos.

Rights owned by PWBA may be assigned to a variety of consumer product companies for fair consideration. Rights which may be assigned include titled event sponsorship of tournaments, a series of tournaments, a single tournament, other sanctioned activities or other PWBA assets. PWBA television broadcasts and other PWBA-sanctioned activities are hereinafter referred to as PWBA PROGRAMS.

PWBA PROGRAMS provides opportunities for companies to promote and display their products, product names, logos and trademarks to the consumer public. Companies that desire to take advantage of the promotional opportunities must have their products, logos and trademarks approved by the PWBA in accordance with the terms and conditions of the PWBA BOWLING INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM.

Effective January 1, 2015, PWBA requires APPROVAL of products displaying company names, trademarks and/or logos prior to their use in PWBA PROGRAMS.

Approved Corporations – Corporations seeking approval of products, logos or trademarks for appearance in PWBA PROGRAMS are divided into these categories:

A LEVEL 1 CORPORATION is a corporation engaged in the manufacture and/or marketing of bowling balls, accessories and/or apparel which has agreed to participate in the BOWLING INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM as defined by PWBA and to pay the required annual fee set by the PWBA. These companies' products may be used in PWBA PROGRAMS but their logos may not be displayed on player apparel, tournament signage or other PWBA marketing and promotional materials.

A LEVEL 2 CORPORATION is a corporation engaged in the manufacture and/or marketing of bowling balls, accessories and/or apparel which has agreed to participate in the BOWLING INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM as defined by PWBA and to pay the required annual fee set by the PWBA. These companies' products may be used in PWBA PROGRAMS and their logos may be displayed on player apparel, tournament signage or other PWBA marketing and promotional materials.

A LEVEL 3 CORPORATION is a corporation engaged in the manufacture and/or marketing of bowling balls, accessories and/or apparel which has agreed to participate in the BOWLING INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM as defined by PWBA and to pay the required annual fee set by the PWBA. These companies' products may be used in PWBA PROGRAMS and their logos may be displayed on player apparel, tournament signage or other PWBA marketing and promotional materials. They also have agreed to be the title sponsor of at least one (1) PWBA Tour event.

A LEVEL 4 CORPORATION is a corporation engaged in the manufacture and/or marketing of bowling accessories or bowling related products including but not limited to bowling shoes, clothing, wrist or arm support devices, finger grips, hand conditioning products, bags, towels, pouches and similar products, which has agreed to participate in the BOWLING INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM as defined by PWBA and to pay the required annual fee set by PWBA. These companies' products may be used in PWBA PROGRAMS and their logos may be displayed on player apparel, tournament signage or other PWBA marketing and promotional materials.

All products of an APPROVED CORPORATION are APPROVED PRODUCTS for a period of one calendar year. All products shall be subject to re-approval at the beginning of the calendar year, regardless of date of release. An APPROVED CORPORATION agrees to abide by all rules and regulations of the PWBA BOWLING INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM and shall be entitled to display its names, trademarks and/or logos on products used in PWBA PROGRAMS so long as such display is the same as when the product is sold commercially.

APPROVED CORPORATIONS may use the phrase, "approved for use in PWBA competition," or "approved by the PWBA," in advertising or promotional materials.

Approval of any product does not guarantee its use by any member of PWBA or PWBA's invited guests who have sole right to decide which products they will use in PWBA PROGRAMS.

PWBA shall have the right to refuse to approve any corporation or any product.

Television Incentive Prize Rules – Incentive prizes offered to PWBA tournament players for use of APPROVED PRODUCTS displaying name/logo/trademarks shall be determined by the owner of the name/logo/trademark hereafter the "owner".

Incentive prize programs offered to PWBA tournament players must be provided to PWBA in writing by a designated representative of the owner no later than the start of the first block of match play. Incentive prizes may be changed up until the start of the first block of match play.

A PWBA tournament player who accepts an incentive prize which is in excess of the posted incentive prize shall be in violation of the PWBA Code of Ethics.

PWBA incentive rules require the use of an APPROVED PRODUCT in the television finals of a tournament in the same condition as it is commercially sold.

The use of non-approved products by a PWBA tournament player shall not be permitted.

Any owner shall notify PWBA in writing of the name of any player it has signed to an individual performance agreement, indicating to PWBA the product(s) involved and the length of time under which the player is contractually committed to the owner.

Event Title Sponsorship – Titled event sponsorship for any PWBA tournament during the calendar year may be offered by PWBA to any company at a fee per tournament approved by PWBA. For a titled event tournament sponsored by a company other than an APPROVED CORPORATION, the sponsor's name(s), logo(s) and/or trademark(s) can be displayed during that specific tournament only.

A direct competitor of a title event sponsor may not purchase opening and/or closing billboards for the telecast of a titled event sponsor's tournament.

A direct competitor of a titled event sponsor may purchase paid advertising commercials within the telecast of the titled event sponsor's tournaments if available.

Standards, practices, rules or policies set forth by the television network broadcasting the PWBA tournament may override PWBA television rules and policies set forth herein. PWBA reserves the right to adjust Product Approval Rules at any time.

## **Rule 23. REGISTRATION OF COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS BY INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTED PLAYERS**

A bowler competing in Professional Women's Bowling Association programs does not have the right to sell advertising considerations or display a company's name/logo/trademark on PWBA television programs, except as herein provided.

A bowler who is a CONTRACTED PLAYER for an APPROVED CORPORATION may display the company's name/logo/trademark on her clothing or related accessories on PWBA television programs under conditions provided within PWBA's Approved Products Rules for approved corporations.

A bowler who enters into agreement to become a CONTRACTED PLAYER for any COMMERCIAL PRODUCT shall confirm the product and the corporation are properly approved. She may display the company's name/logo/trademark on her clothing or related accessories during PWBA competition.

A CONTRACTED PLAYER does not have the right to organize or conduct sales, sampling, couponing or any other type of marketing program directly related to or as part of any PWBA tournament program without the specific approval of the PWBA. Programs which are designed for any purpose other than a CONTRACTED PLAYER'S participation as a tournament player are the property of the PWBA and may require payment of additional fee(s) to the PWBA.

Signing of a personal performance agreement with any company does not exempt any individual bowler or company from the provisions, terms, conditions or fees specified within PWBA's Product Approval Rules.

Rules and policies governing standards and practices by the television network broadcasting any given PWBA tournament may override PWBA's rules.