

Friday Night OUT Bowling League: 2025 - 2026 By-laws

www.FridayNightOutBowling.com

September 5, 2025

President: John Keller

Vice President: Douglas Brooks

Secretary: Mike Brodie

Treasurer: Chad Brittle

I. Officers Elected

A. Election of Officers

The election of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will take place two weeks prior to the end of the regular bowling season by the membership of the league. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.

B. Vacancy in Office

A vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Board of Directors within seven (7) days.

C. Duties in Office

The USBC rules describe the duties of office of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer as well as the duties of Team Captains.

II. Name of League/Establishment/Day of Bowling

A. **Friday Night OUT Bowling League** will be governed by rules and guidelines established by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) and the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO) as well as these by-laws.

B. **League will bowl at AMF Norfolk**, Norfolk, Virginia.

C. **Bowling will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.**, Friday, September 5, 2025, for ten (10) minutes of practice.

III. Team Information

A. **League will consist of teams** of four bowlers per team (see Roster Rule VIII B).

B. **Teams will be comprised** of any combination of men or women.

IV. Bowling Season Information

A. **The league will bowl 30 weeks** beginning September 5, 2025 and ending April 17, 2026. A 31st week of bowling will be a Playoff among the four teams designated during the regular season. The Playoff will be conducted April 24, 2026. In the event that bowling is canceled for any reason, the schedule will be pushed back one week unless another course of action is decided upon by the Board of Directors.

B. **The league will observe the following holidays: Nov 28, Dec 26, Jan 16.**

C. **The season will be divided into thirds.** Each third will be 9 weeks with a position round the 10th week. Winners from the three thirds plus the team with the most points (which did not win a third) will participate in the final Playoff. In the event the same team wins more than one third, the team with the second-highest regular season point count will be invited to the Playoff. If the same team wins all three thirds, it will be declared league champion, and there will be no Playoff.

D. **In the event of a tie for first place in the position round**, the tied teams will bowl a one (1) game roll-off with total pin fall (plus handicap) determining the winner. The roll-off will immediately follow the conclusion of the position round. If a tie remains, an extra tenth (10th) frame (with handicap) will continue until a winner is determined.

E. **First place league champions** will be determined by the Playoff. All other standings, beginning with second place, will be based on the overall season record. If there is a tie in any other positions within the standings, the money for the tied teams will be combined and divided evenly among the bowlers on those teams. A tie in the Playoff will be decided in the same manner as a tie in a position round.

V. Type of League

A. The league will be handicapped.

1. **A legal lineup** consists of at least two team members (or one team member and a substitute).
2. **Handicap** is awarded per player, per game.
3. **Handicap will be based** on the formula of 90 percent of the difference between the individual's average and the league scratch score of 220.
4. **The league's vacancy score** shall be 120 with a handicap of 90 pins per game.
5. **The absentee score** for each game shall be the absent member's current average less ten (10) pins.
6. **If a bowler is absent** without notice for two (2) consecutive weeks and past due in weekly fees, the bowler shall be dismissed.

7. **Standings will be determined** on a point basis with two (2) points for each game won and one (1) point for the winner of total pins.
8. **All individuals will establish an average** based on the number of completed games in the bowler's first (1st) match as long as at least one game is completed. Otherwise, a vacancy score will be used.

B. Cash Prizes.

1. **The league will be a money league.** A prize committee will be appointed by the President and will be responsible for creating a minimum of two (2) prize lists to be voted on by the Team Captains. The prize list will be selected by majority vote of the Team Captains no later than the fifth (5th) week of bowling.
2. **Bowlers earn team prize money** for only those weeks for which they paid bowling fees.
3. **A single bowler/team that achieves high honors** in more than one category will be presented with one cash prize, and that cash prize will be based on the highest dollar amount or highest merit (handicap over scratch; average-series-game) in that order, in their respective categories (individual or team). For the individual awards, a bowler must have completed two-thirds (2/3) of the total games in the season.
4. **USBC and IGBO recognition awards** will be given in accordance with the USBC rules and the IGBO constitution.
5. **Any achievement award for Most Improved** will be presented in accordance with USBC rules.

VI. League Fees

A. Weekly Fees

Weekly fee per bowler will be \$22.00 for 30 weeks. The fee breaks down as follows:

Lineage \$14.00 Treasurer \$0.35 Secretary \$0.35 Operating Expenses \$0.30 Prize Fund \$7.00

B. All league fees must be paid by Week 28. Last 2 weeks must be paid by Week 10.

C. Bowlers may not be more than one week behind in league fees. Any bowler more than one week behind in league fees will not be permitted to bowl until league fees have been paid. Any games bowled by a delinquent bowler will be forfeited.

D. Membership Fees:

1. USBC Membership must be paid the first week of bowling.
2. IGBO Sanctioning will be paid by the league.

E. League Fund-raisers

1. **The Vice President will administer** all fund-raisers.
2. **Proceeds from the fund-raisers will be deposited** into the league bank account each week.
3. **Proceeds from the fund-raisers will be distributed** as follows: League operational expenses first, then as determined by the Board of Directors.

VII. League Management

- A. **The management of the league** shall be vested in the Board of Directors composed of league officers and the team captains (or representatives in case of absence) of each team.
- B. **Each member** of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The President shall only vote in the event of a tie.
- C. **A quorum** for the Board of Directors to conduct business shall be a simple majority of its membership.
- D. **The league membership** shall elect officers and adopt general governing by-laws.
- E. **The following accounting procedures** shall be adhered to:
 1. **Each team will receive** a copy of the End of Season League Financial Statement.
 2. **All league funds collected** shall be deposited in the league bank account within 72 hours.
 3. **The President shall appoint an Audit Committee.** Audits will be conducted every three (3) months.
 4. **It shall be the duty of the President** to conduct a full financial audit of all league accounts at the conclusion of the league with the understanding that an audit can be called for at any time. A report of these audits shall be available to the league one week after the audit has been completed.
 5. **Overdrafts.** The Treasurer will notify the President of any returned check; the President will, in turn, make arrangements with the bowler for repayment and advise the Treasurer of those arrangements.
 6. **In any league-organized event** (banquet, etc.), only those bowlers in good standing will be paid for. In the event any money is left over from league events, the remaining money will be distributed in its entirety as determined by the Board of Directors.
- F. **IGBO Representative and alternate.** One (1) IGBO representative and one (1) alternate shall be recommended by the President and elected by the Board of Directors for a term of one (1) year. These individuals will represent the league at the national and regional levels. If the IGBO representative is unable to attend a meeting, the alternate will have the option to represent the league.

VIII. Additional Information and Rules

- A. **Substitutes** shall not be permitted to bowl during the position round of each third, nor in the final Playoff.
1. **Substitutes are required to pay a \$5 fee** each week they sub on a team. The fee must be paid to the Treasurer prior to the start of bowling. The fees collected will be added to the prize fund at the end of the season. Substitutes are not eligible to win any league prizes but may buy into any games and side pots.
- B. **Team Roster**
1. Rosters are limited to five members.
 2. Each team will field up to four bowlers each night of league play.
 3. Team rosters cannot be changed during the final regular week of each third nor during position rounds (see rule governing Substitutes). Rules governing permanent members otherwise apply.
- C. **Pre-bowling and post-bowling**
1. **The Postponement Committee** will consist of the Secretary (as chairman), the President, as well as two members to be appointed by the President.
 2. **The Team Captain** requesting to pre- or post-bowl should do so at least 7 days prior to the regularly scheduled match in order that the opposing team can be notified. Exceptions may be permitted at the discretion of the Postponement Committee. See Secretary for Request Form.
- D. **A tardy bowler** may join a game in progress prior to the rolling of the first ball of the sixth frame of that match; missed frames may be made up. Failure to appear prior to this point in any game will require the use of a blind score or substitute for that individual.
- E. **Vacancy Team.** A team bowling the Vacancy Team (if one exists) must win its games. The team cannot bowl more than 40 pins below its team average per game to win points. (A team with a team average of 600 must bowl 560 or above.)
- F. **Forfeits.** Vacancy Team rule applies.
- G. **Pacers are allowed.** However, if a pacer bowls in a vacant spot, he or she must pay the lineage (rounded up to the next dollar) to the Treasurer, as the league will be charged lineage by the House.
- H. **Bowlers joining a season in progress** will be required to pay all fees minus lineage for weeks missed. This fee will be rounded up to the next dollar. Fees must be paid within two weeks of the join date.
- I. **No new teams may join the league after week 2.** New teams will have two weeks from the join date to make up missed games or they will count as losses. The draw system will be used to choose an opponent for comparison. The exception to the second week rule is if a vacancy team exists, in which case a new team may take over the existing record of the vacancy team. All fees for weeks missed must be paid within two weeks of the join date.
- J. **Delay of game. A five-minute break (maximum)** may be taken between games. No breaks will be permitted during a game already in progress, except for emergencies.
- K. **All rules not covered** by these by-laws shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the USBC and IGBO.
- L. **Additional committees may be appointed during the season.**