

League Rules

2 Definitions and Qualifications

2.1.1 Any League consisting of four or more singles players, or teams bowling the game of Tenpin Bowling according to a prearranged schedule, can be defined as a league, regardless of whether prizes of any shape or form are offered. All such games of Tenpin bowling must be bowled and conducted strictly in adherence to the playing rules, if they are to be considered official in league play.

If such a league is sanctioned or unsanctioned, it shall adhere to a predetermined schedule agreed by its members. This league should be bowled in a gentlemanly manner which promotes good sportsmanship among its members and those of other leagues. It should provide an annual team or individual champion by the games bowled under its auspices.

A minimum of three consecutive games shall be played by each team every time the league is scheduled to bowl, and the league members shall decide on the format of the games.

Leagues generally decide a four point system, comprising of one point for each game bowled and one point for the total pin fall. This is an example and the league should decide on the point system before the start of the schedule.

2.1.2 Singles Leagues

A group of four or more players deciding to bowl scheduled games of Tenpin Bowling with standings based on the results of the games bowled shall be classed as a Singles League, and therefore can be sanctioned under that category.

2.1.3 Team Leagues

A group of four or more teams consisting of equal numbers of players deciding to bowl scheduled games of Tenpin Bowling with standings based on the results of the games shall be classed as a Team league, and therefore can be sanctioned under that category.

2.1.4 Mixed Leagues

Mixed leagues are defined as a group of male and female players either playing as individuals or as part of teams. This will also include leagues which are made up of Adult and Junior bowlers.

2.1.5 Travelling Leagues

A league which is scheduled to bowl in different establishments can be classed as a travelling league and may consist of any of the above leagues.

2.1.6 League Sanctions

Any league can be sanctioned providing all members hold a current STBA card. All membership dues should be remitted to the correct office along with the sanction form. Any junior bowling in a league which has adult members must hold an Adult/Junior membership card or STBA Gold Card. Members who already have a current membership card will not need to re-apply for membership.

2.1.7 League Championship Play-off

When a tie occurs for the championship or league, or the league bowls a split season, an additional series of at least three games shall be bowled to determine the Champion. This series of games shall be conducted under the conditions and rules governing league play during the regular season, unless the league adopts special play-off rules at the start of the league. The league Secretary shall arrange for the lanes to be available for such play-offs.

When two or more teams are involved in the play-off and the league has not adopted special rules, total pin fall in a three games series shall determine the champion.

If the league is sanctioned, then the final standings which will include the play-off results should be sent to the Association Secretary.

2.1.8 Constitution and Rules of Leagues

Each Bowling league should have a set of rules which will cover any eventuality during its regular activity. The League Constitution shall consist of the provision for electing Office Bearers, and general playing rules of the league. Each league shall elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Offices of Secretary and Treasurer are the only two posts which maybe combined and held by one person. If the league is sanctioned then all committee members must hold a current STBA membership card.

Two members of an immediate family may not be President and Treasurer of any one league nor can they co-sign for withdrawals from the league Bank account. The constitution should also set out who is on the committee. (if is it a team league then the team captains maybe ordinary members of the committee, in a singles league then provision should be made for ordinary members to be elected.)

The President shall preside at all meetings of the League, liaise with the Secretary and Treasurer to set up a Bank Account in the league name with two signatures of officers of the league for all withdrawals. He/she should oversee the monthly financial statement of the league and furnish each team with a copy by either

displaying it in the establishment or given to each team captain. He/she will retain the monthly financial statements until all the league's prize fund is distributed at the end of the season. He/she should give each team captain a copy of the league rules and display a schedule in the bowling centre. He/she shall arrange a prize list, together with the rules governing the eligibility of teams and individuals for special prize consideration as agreed at the Annual General Meeting of the league. This should be posted on the league board no later than five weeks after the start of the league.

The Secretary shall keep accurate records of all individual and team scores and must post weekly averages and team standing or positions, which should be available to all members of the league, at least until the end of the following week's schedule. It should either be displayed in the establishment, given weekly to team captains and/or individual members of the league, or both. The Secretary shall provide the Association when requested a list of all full names of all bowlers who competed in the league during the season, showing the number of games, pin fall and average. He/she shall collect membership dues where applicable and forward them to the Association Secretary along with league sanction within 42 days after the opening date of the league schedule. He/she is responsible for the collecting of membership money from new members who join the league during the season unless they are already a member of STBA, and remit such membership dues within seven days of collection. If the league secretary fails to comply with the aforementioned rule the League Committee shall remove him/her from office and a report sent to STBA for suspension of membership.

The League Treasurer shall set up a Bank Account pertaining to the rules of Section 2.1.8. The final statement shall show all transactions which should include; interest, income, any other revenue and expenditure made during the League year, and should be furnished to all Team Captains and/or all league members at the end of the bowling schedule.

2.1.9 Management of the League

The elected committee shall be the governing body of the League. In a team league provision can be made for team captains to arrange a substitute player from their team attend meetings of the League. Each member of the committee shall be entitled to one vote, whether he/she is a team representative or committee member, or both. The committee should decide on all matters relating to disputes, complaints or protests relating to any controversy or violation of league rules. It has the authority to adopt, enforce or revoke any of the league rules, but rules must not be inconsistent with the rules of the STBA. The committee may declare forfeited or null and void any protested or disputed game or games, and decide upon any matter

arising in its league. The decision of the committee is final, unless an appeal is made to STBA for further consideration. If using rules which are not in line with STBA the committee shall adopt these rules prior to the start of the schedule and may only be changed by the unanimous decision by the committee present and entitled to vote.

2.1.10 Teams

A bowling team is defined as a group consisting of two or more players formed for the purpose of bowling in a league and/or tournament competition. If the league is sanctioned by STBA, all members of each team, including substitutes must apply for STBA membership.

2.1.11 Authority of Team Captain in League Play

A team captain is defined as a qualified member of a team which conforms to the rules and regulations of STBA. He/she is the representative for the team, and is responsible for the conduct and attendance of his/her team in all league play. Providing he/she does not violate any of the League or STBA rules he/she can continue in this position as long as he/she is acceptable to the League Committee. It is within the captain's authority to remove any player permanently from his/her team, if he/she is able to furnish good and sufficient reason to the League Committee. The team captain shall be responsible for the weekly payment of the league fees. There shall be no arrears unless authorised by the League Committee. If any team or team members should fail to pay any indebtedness for which they are responsible for then the League Committee may removed either from the league. The team captain is responsible for the division of the league prizes according to any written or verbal agreements. Where a dispute arises because of unavoidable resignations of any member or team decisions may be rendered by the League Committee, if so required.

2.1.12 Bowlers – Qualifications

In order to become a member of STBA, a bowler must qualify under the eligibility rules of the STBA.