## I. NATIONAL DUCKPIN YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1. Winning State Tournament Teams (4-member teams) compete for national titles at the National Duckpin Youth Team Championships in July of each year. The National Tournament will consist of three games plus handicap at no cost to the participants. Team and individual awards will be presented based on total scratch pinfall and total pinfall plus handicap.
- 2. All bowlers in the National Tournament will have their scores used in a singles competition. The boys and girls who bowl the highest set, scratch and handicap, will each receive \$500 scholarships (see page 31 for additional information on scholarships). A bowler can only win one scholarship in the tournament, with scratch taking precedence. In case of a tie, each bowler will receive a full scholarship.
- 3. All bowlers in the National Tournament will also compete free of charge in a Pro-Am Tournament, consisting of three games plus 80% handicap. Pros will change lanes after each game and will be guaranteed a score of 140.
- 4. The National Tournament will also include an Open Tournament for Preps, Bantams, Juniors, and Majors. Pee Wees may advance one age division and compete as Preps. All NDYA bowlers are eligible to participate for a modest entry fee and will compete with their 01 June average. The Open Tournament will consist of three game sets with singles, doubles, and triples shifts available throughout multiple days. Open Tournament participants may also enter the Pro-Am Tournament for a modest entry fee.
- 5. The National Tournament Director will make any and all decisions not covered herein, in consultation with the NDYA Tournament Committee.

# II. GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL TEAM COACHES

- 1. Once you are notified that your team has won States, you will need to inform your bowlers and their parents/guardians and ensure they are aware of the requirement to provide a copy of their bowler's birth certificate. You'll also want to verify the spelling of the bowlers' names, obtain their shirt sizes, and ensure everyone will be available to compete at the National Tournament. If a bowler will be unable to compete at Nationals, you'll need to identify a substitute.
- 2. Your State Director will provide you with the National Tournament information forms package and will most likely schedule a meeting to collect the completed forms and answer any questions.
- 3. You'll be expected to accompany your team to Nationals and be on-hand throughout the weekend to encourage your team, keep enthusiasm high, and curb any inappropriate behavior.

## III. STATE/REGIONAL YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. All NDYA bowlers are eligible to compete according to their NDYA age division (age as of 1 September of the previous calendar year: Preps 7-9; Bantams 10-12; Juniors 13-15; Majors 16-21) in the State Team Championships, which take place in the spring in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Virginia, and three regions in Maryland.



- 2. A bowler may compete in their regular age division and/or the next highest age division. The age of the oldest team member will determine the division of the team. If a bowler qualifies for more than one team in different divisions, the earliest entry will determine the team he/she advances with to the national finals. Pee Wees may compete in the state/regional tournament at the state's option and may advance one division at both the state and national level.
- 3. Each team will be comprised of four eligible bowlers, all of whom must be from the same bowling center. Teams may be all boys, all girls, or any combination of boys/girls. NOTE: Travel leagues (i.e., leagues with four or more teams that bowl as a league at two or more bowling centers during the schedule) will be recognized as a separate entity.
- 4. Substitutes may be used at the state/regional and must be eligible under all tournament rules.
- 5. Fully registered and paid teams with a bowler that cannot bowl at the time of the tournament will receive the absent bowler's full average and 80% handicap. Teams submitted with an absentee bowler will use the following: Pee Wees 60; Preps 70; Bantams 80; Juniors 90; Majors 100. Teams may not compete with more than two absent bowlers.
- 6. Any team using an ineligible bowler will have that bowler disqualified. Should the bowler be disqualified prior to the tournament, the team may identify a substitute or use an absentee score (see above) and 80% handicap. Should the bowler be disqualified after the tournament, the bowler's scores will revert to the appropriate absentee score listed above.
- 7. Participation on multiple teams will be permitted under the following conditions:
  - a. Bowlers may enter the tournament as often as they wish.
  - b. The same four bowlers may not compete as a team more than once; the team must change at least one of its original members.
  - c. Should a bowler compete in more than one region and place on a championship team in each region, the bowler's earliest entry will determine which team the bowler will participate on in the National Tournament.

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- 8. All teams will bowl 3 games. Pee Wee teams may bowl 2 games at each state's option.
- 9. Highest NDYA league average for a minimum of 24 games as of March 1 of the current calendar year will be used (15 games for Pee Wees competing as Pee Wees). A league standing sheet must accompany the entry form supporting the reported average.
- 10. Bowlers will receive a handicap per game of 80% of 160 scratch, using the official NDYA handicap chart (*see page 18*).
- 11. All matches will be bowled at the times scheduled by the State/Regional Tournament Director. Bowlers/coaches should report 30 minutes prior to squad time.
- 12. Total pinfall, including handicap, will determine winners. The number of places awarded will be based on number of teams competing in each division (generally 10%).
- 13. In case of a tie for 1st place only, the teams will bowl three games to determine the winners at a time mutually convenient for the tied teams and the bowling center.
- 14. The division champions from each state/region will receive a state champion shirt and emblem and will advance to the National Tournament. NOTE: Teams that advance to the National Tournament must be accompanied by a coach at least 25 years of age who has been certified through the USBC Registered Volunteer Program.
- 15. All NDYA rules will be observed.
- 16. Rules of conduct:

In addition to the NDYA Code and Rules found in Chapter 4, the following rules of conduct will be strictly enforced:

- a. no eating, drinking, or chewing gum in the bowlers' area during tournament competition;
- b. only tournament bowlers and their coaches will be permitted in the bowlers' area during the tournament competition; and,
- c. no on-lane coaching.

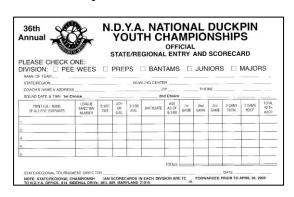
*NOTE:* Penalties to be announced prior to tournament competition.

17. The Tournament Director of the State/Regional Tournament will make any and all decisions not covered by these rules on the state/regional level.

## IV. GUIDELINES FOR STATE/REGIONAL COACHES

#### A. BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT

- 1. Work with youth to create 4-member teams, where at all possible.
- 2. Collect the appropriate team fees and complete the State/Regional Tournament Entry Form (in pencil) for each team. Be sure to include coach's name and contact information, as well as a 2<sup>nd</sup> choice for squad date and time. Ensure that all team names are appropriate (the tournament director reserves the right to change any team name deemed offensive and/or inappropriate). Double check birthdates, ages, and age divisions.



- 3. Submit a league standings sheet (*include full names, total pinfall, number of games, and averages*) that reflects the bowlers' averages as of 1 March.
- 4. Work with your center to reserve bowling shoes to take to the tournament. Host houses are usually unable to provide shoes for all tournament participants. Be sure to keep a list of the shoes borrowed and to return all shoes to the center.
- 5. Instruct bowlers to wear appropriate clothing and to arrive 30 minutes early.

#### B. DURING THE TOURNAMENT

- 1. When all team members have arrived, check-in with tournament officials. Notify officials of absentee bowlers and substitutions.
- 2. Stay with the team throughout the tournament, encouraging them, keeping enthusiasm high, and curbing inappropriate behavior.
- 3. Keep a copy of all frame-by frame scores (forms are provided at the tournament).

#### C. AFTER THE TOURNAMENT

- 1. Use the copies of tournament scores to determine awards. Games bowled during the tournament count toward all NDYA individual awards, to include Star of the Month awards. Remember to place a T next to the score on the Star of the Month form to alert the NDYA Office that the score was rolled during tournament play.
- 2. If notified of winning teams/individuals, notify bowlers in a timely manner.

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- 3. First-place team members must provide a copy of their birth certificates to verify age division. These must be provided by the Tournament Director's deadline or the 2<sup>nd</sup>-place team will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place.
- 4. Be sure to provide all of your bowlers with information about the State/Regional Awards Presentation.

## IV. GUIDELINES FOR STATE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

State Tournament Directors must be at least 25 years of age and must be an NDYA-Certified Instructor. They must conduct themselves in a positive manner, displaying good judgment and reflecting the public relations expected by the NDYA Board of Directors.

#### BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT

- 1. Contact the host center. Ensure they have dedicated the proper number of lanes for the tournament shifts and they understand that no alcoholic beverages can be consumed in the area where the youth are competing. Recommend that they contact any adult leagues that may be affected by the tournament some leagues will need to be canceled while others may just start a few minutes late.
- 2. The following supplies are needed:
  - a. National Anthem
  - b. State and American Flags
  - c. Stapler, Staples, Tape, etc.
- d. Adding machine and tape
- e. Blank scoresheets for coaches
- f. Ball weights and scale (optional)
- 3. Contact all bowling centers in your state/region. Introduce yourself to Program Directors and ensure:
  - a. centers have information/entry forms, posters, etc. (provided by the NDYA).
  - b. Program Directors are aware of tournament dates/shift times, the need to provide averages sheets as of 1 March, the deadline and instructions for submitting entries and fees, and the need to bring bowling shoes.
- 4. Know all tournament rules (on entry form and Chapter 4 of this manual).
- 5. Verify each entry form:
  - a. ensure the correct spelling of bowlers' names and birthdates agree with ages;
  - b. ensure averages match those from the league average sheets and the bowler has the required number of games (remember to check for highest league average for those youth who bowl in multiple leagues);
  - c. ensure bowlers are in the correct division (may move up one age division); and,

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- d. fill in each bowler's handicap on the entry form; add team handicap (use NDYA Handicap Chart on page 18). Divide total team handicap by number of games that division will bowl to determine the team's per-game handicap.
- 6. As entries are received and verified:
  - a. keep records of available lanes and shifts per day;
  - b. assign each entry an entry number, a lane number, and a squad time;
  - c. as a shift fills, and more teams have that shift as their first choice, inform the team coach that their second choice will be their squad time;
  - d. send a confirmation to all team coaches that includes the team name, division, squad date/time, entry number, and coach's name; and,
  - e. prepare the telescores or enter the information into the automated system.
- 7. Identify statisticians (*need more than one*) and ensure they have the supplies and knowledge needed.

#### AT THE TOURNAMENT

- Set up at tables for team check-ins. Coaches check-in teams after all four bowlers
  are present, and are then advised of lane assignments. Substitute changes are made
  at this time. Notify the State Director for absentee bowlers. Once changes are
  made, the State Director or statistician will change the handicap and the telescores
  accordingly.
- 2. At the discretion of the State Director, all bowling balls used during the competition can be weighed. Tournament officials will weigh bowling balls at check-in; balls that are too large or too heavy will be held until the shift is over and then returned to the bowler. Bowling balls must be weighed in each shift, even if the bowler reenters.
- 3. Make brief announcements discuss important rules.
- 4. Assign and introduce floor supervisors (*should be Certified Coaches or Instructors*).
- 5. Introduce each center represented during each shift, thank host bowling center management for hosting the tournament, and play the National Anthem. Remember to ask the audience to stand and remove their hats.
- 6. Be available throughout the tournament to handle all problems and any situation that may occur or require rule interpretation.

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#### AFTER THE TOURNAMENT

- 1. Work with statisticians to double check the winning scores and entries (to include re-checking spelling of the bowlers' names, birth dates, averages, pinfall, and number of games from the NDYA average sheets submitted by the coaches).
- 2. Notify the winning coaches by phone and schedule a meeting to:
  - a. obtain copies of birth certificates for age verification, shirt sizes, and required Nationals paperwork;
  - b. plan for state awards ceremony; and,
  - c. discuss the activities and rules that will be in place at the National Tournament (these guidelines are set by the NDYA Board of Directors).
- 3. State Tournament results should be displayed at the host center and distributed to each center that participated in the tournament.
- 4. Send entry forms and average sheets for winning teams, and shirt sizes for each bowler to the NDYA Office. This must be done by the publicized deadline.
- 5. Be available to answer questions from winning coaches, bowlers, and parents.
- 6. Accompany winning coaches/teams to Nationals and assist Nationals Officials with check-in procedures, lane supervision, meals, etc.

For additional paper copies of this manual or for information about our program, contact:

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