

## **It is Official! The PBA USA is back for the 2023 season!**

A Note from Scottie Marzonie

I joined the PBA (Professional Bowls Association) and started Bowling in the US Qualifiers two years ago. I look forward to sharing my knowledge with all of you who are interested in becoming a member. Members can compete in US Qualifier tournaments that give you the opportunity to bowl Internationally based solely on your own results from tournament play in the PBA. First, a little background.

### **What is the World Bowls Tour and the PBA?**

#### **WORLD BOWLS TOUR**

- World Bowls Tour (WBT) was created in 1997, under the then chairman Richard Corsie.
- The World Bowls Tour is an International Organization which promotes bowls worldwide and organizes competitions, including the World Indoor Bowls Championships.

Its partner organizations the **Professional Bowls Association** and International Indoor Bowls Council run qualifying competitions for their players to qualify for WBT events.

Since inception the WBT has worked with partner organisations, broadcast partners, sponsorship teams and online streaming partners to run successful tournaments and promote the sport of bowls.

#### **PBA USA: History**

The aim of the PBA is to promote and develop Professional Bowls worldwide and in doing so, foster, safeguard and encourage the game of bowls at all levels.

The Professional Bowls Association (PBA) was formed in 1997 by bowlers worldwide including Bowls USA Hall of Fame member Frank Souza. The PBA has branches in US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Israel, South Africa, and the UK.

The World Bowls Tour runs a series of events including the Scottish International Open, and the World Indoor Bowls Championships at Potters Resort, UK.

Bowlers compete in their home country to qualify for the honor of playing in the Tour events. The US branch of the PBA has confirmed the dates and location of our US Qualifiers for this season.

**DATES:** September 18-21, 2023

(We will have practice available on Sunday the 17th)

**LOCATION:** San Jose Lawn Bowls Club

Located in Frank Bramhall Park

1320 Willow St.

San Jose, Ca.95125

## **QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS:**

**The three Qualifiers will be run successively, and timing will be dependent on the number of entrants:**

### Qualifier #1:

Scottish International Open- Open Singles Qualifier  
Starts Monday September 18th, 2023, at 9:00 am!

WBT Event: Hot off the press!

West Lothian Indoor Bowls Club. The event will take place from Tuesday 7th November until Thursday 9th November 2023 and we will use the same schedule as last year's event.

### Qualifier #2:

World Indoor Bowls Championships-Open Singles Qualifier  
Starts Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup>-As soon as rinks become available-Be prepared to start at 9:00 am!

WBT Event: Potters Resort, UK January TBD

### Qualifier #3

World Indoor Bowls Championships-Open Pairs Qualifier  
Starts Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup>-As soon as rinks become available-Be prepared to start at 9:00 am!

WBT Event: Potters Resort, UK January TBD

Play will be on a knockout basis and played in sets format (2 sets of nine ends) with three end tiebreakers where necessary. Full details and COP are available on the website. Singles will be four bowls and Pairs is two bowls per player. Winners of the singles events will receive World ranking points.

Dates, locations, and details of all WBT Tournaments will be available on the website as they become available.

## **Who can join?**

Anyone can join the PBA! All ages, genders and ability levels are welcome. You do not need to be a member of a club or organization.

## **How to Join?**

Visit the PBA USA website at [www.pbausea.org](http://www.pbausea.org).

Fill out the Contact form with your name, phone number and email address.

In the notes let us know which of the events you would like to be entered in. Please list your partner's name, as well if playing in the Pairs event. Please request to be on the "looking for partner list" if you would like to play and do not have one yet. We recommend participating in all 3 Qualifiers. It is great fun and an even better experience.

## How to Pay?

This is functioning now, but bear with me as I continue to improve the new website.

**I will be adding the ability to pay for Membership (Required yearly to enter tournaments) and then pay for individual Qualifiers if you don't want to play all three. You will have to be available during the week for your matches when they become scheduled as we run the concurrent events.**

Make a payment of \$125.00 for the season on the website by credit card or PayPal. This covers membership dues (\$50.00) and \$25.00 for each of the 3 Qualifiers (\$75.00). The entry fees from the Qualifiers will be awarded to the winners to help with their international travel. You must sign an intent to travel to the Qualifier you win to receive the monies. If you choose not to go, the monies will be awarded to the alternate for their travel expenses. You do not receive any tournament winnings unless you are one of the Qualifiers going to the event.

If you would rather pay by Venmo or send a check here is the information:

Venmo: @scottie-marzonie

Check: Make payable to:

Scott Marzonie

PO Box 783

Mammoth Lakes, Ca. 93546

## **PBA QUALIFIER RULES AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY:**

All the Rules and COP are published on the PBA USA website. The tournaments will run very similarly to the way they will be played on the WBT. If you have any questions, please contact us through the website or by emailing direct at [scottie@pbausa.org](mailto:scottie@pbausa.org).

I look forward to sending more emails with updates and more Qualifier details soon!!!

See you on the Green!

Scottie