



**2025-2026
AZ STATE USBC
YOUTH HANDICAP SINGLES
CERTIFICATION #05221
SECTIONAL RULES & FORMAT**

ENCLOSED: Arizona Handicap Singles Sectional and State Rules and Format.

Coaches: Please make enough copies of these rules so that each bowler wanting to participate has a copy.

ALL ATHLETES AND PARENTS must understand the rules, fees, requirements, deadlines, and conditions of the tournament.

ALL ATHLETES and PARENTS MUST SEE THESE RULES

LEAGUE LEVEL COMPETITION is not necessary this year as all current Youth League Bowlers are eligible to go to the Sectional Level Competition if they bowled in an Arizona USBC youth league sometime between Oct. 1, 2025, and Feb. 12, 2026. Enclosed is a Entry Sheet for listing all who want to enter. Copy forms as needed.

Entry Closing Date: October 18, 2025 Tournament Dates: November 1st & 2nd, 2025

TWO SECTIONAL SITES:

Northern Site will be AMF Union Hills, 3424 W. Union Hills Rd., Phoenix, AZ (623) 581-1595

Southern Site will be Cactus Bowl, 3665 S. 16th Ave., Tucson, AZ (520) 327-6561

Check-in time is 12:00 p.m., Bowling starts at 1:00 p.m.

THIS IS THE FINAL LEVEL OF COMPETITION FOR THE 11 & UNDER YOUTH

FEES:

Sectional Fees:	11 & Under:	\$25.00
	12 & Above:	\$30.00

Payment of fees must be made by league check, money order or cashier's check made payable to:

AZ State USBC

No Personal checks or cash will be accepted.

A fee of \$30.00 will be assessed for all returned checks

ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT FULL PAYMENT

Tournament Director: Ralph Mellecker, AZ State USBC
Address: 2310 E. Cristina Avenue
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Phone: (602) 614-8330
Email: azusbcyouth@gmail.com



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ARE YOUR YOUTH BOWLERS & PARENTS AWARE OF THE RULES???

1. This tournament is certified by the United States Bowling Congress and shall be governed by USBC rules.
2. The competition is open to all 2025-2026 AZ State USBC Youth members. To compete, a bowler must be a regular member of a certified USBC Youth League bowling in an AZ bowling center between Oct 1st, 2025, and Feb 12th, 2026, and not be under suspension at the time of qualifying.
3. League substitutes can participate if it is their only USBC Youth league. USBC Collegiate members are eligible if they are 2025-2026 Youth members, bowling in an AZ USBC Youth league and have not violated USBC Rule 400.
4. Participants must be aware of each competition level in the state/zone and all associated rules, fees, and deadlines. These items are contained in the specific state/zone rules from the Arizona Youth Handicap Individual Tournament Director (director's information can be found on bowl.com).
5. The competition will be conducted in 4 divisions based on the participant's age. Participation in the wrong age division will lead to automatic disqualification. Bowlers must stay in the given division for their particular league throughout the entire window: All Divisions will be Handicapped

DIVISIONS:

11 & Under Boys	Bowlers whose birth date is 8/1/2014 or later	11 & Under Girls
12 & Above Boys	Bowlers whose birth date is 8/1/2007 thru 7/31/2013	12 & Above Girls

6. **Entry closing date is October 18, 2025.** Tournament entry forms containing the qualifiers' name, address, and telephone number, date of birth, Bowler USBC ID number, and required fees must be submitted by this date to the tournament director.
7. The tournament format shall be:
Divisions 11 & under will bowl 3 games on the same pair of lanes. Total pins will determine the winner of 11 & Under Divisions from each sectional site.

THIS IS THE LAST LEVEL OF COMPETITION FOR DIVISIONS 11 & Under Divisions



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Division 12 & above will bowl 4 games on the same pair of lanes. Total pins will determine who will advance to the state level of competition.

Entry fees are	<u>11 & Under:</u>	<u>12 & Above:</u>	
Lineage & Expense:	\$ 15.75	Lineage & Expenses	\$ 20.75
Awards:	\$ 9.25	Awards/Scholarships	\$ 9.25
TOTAL:	\$ 25.00	TOTAL	\$ 30.00

Awards and Scholarship fees shall be returned 100% to the bowlers.

*Scholarships will be held in SMART Program. Account #08583.

Contact: (800) 514-2695 Ext 8968

*(USBC Rules #301 & 309 states that all scholarship money must be deposited in the SMART Program.)

Athletes must see these rules and choose their own Division

Entrants from the same center will be scheduled together unless otherwise requested.

8. AVERAGES: Bowlers shall use one of the following methods:
- their **highest current certified league average, as of October 20, 2025, of 15 games or more.**
 - If no average with the 15-game minimum as of October 20, 2025, then a bowler's history of a 15-game average bowled closest to the date of competition may be used. **If a bowler has ONLY a sport league average, then USBC Rule 201C will be used. The average adjustment chart in the USBC Rulebook will determine the "correct" average to be used.**
 - The highest book average from 2024-2025 bowling season
 - If a, b, or c does not apply, Bowler will be given a 220 average.
 - Each league must provide an alphabetical list of their bowler's averages as of October 20, 2025, to include ONLY bowlers name, total pins, games bowled, and average.**

Handicap shall be 90% of the difference between the bowler's average and 220.

- No substitutes will be permitted **once athletes have started tournament play.** However, replacements may be used for bowlers who are not present 15 minutes prior to the squad time. Competitors shall be allowed 10 minutes of practice time on their starting pair.
- If no replacement has been made, bowlers arriving late shall begin play and the score shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. Missed frames shall be credited with a zero. **Frames may not be made-up.** Bowlers who are not present when it is their turn to bowl will be credited with a zero for that frame.
- Only Tournament Bowlers, tournament officials, and center staff shall be permitted in the settee area.



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12. Claims for errors in scoring or general playing rules must be made to the tournament director no later than the start of the next block or 30 minutes after the completion of competition. Questionable errors shall be decided upon by the tournament director. All other protests must be confirmed in writing to the tournament director within 72 hours of the infraction. Under this rule, each protest must be specific in itself.
13. Symbolic awards will be given on a ratio of 1 in 10, for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place only.
14. Scholarships will be awarded to the first place in each of the 11 & Under Boy & Girl Divisions and 12 & above Boy & Girl from each of the sectional sites. Additional places will be awarded if entries warrant.
15. Advancement from each of the sectional sites to the state level of competition will be the first 5 places in each of 12 & Above Boys & Girls Divisions. In all cases at least one individual per division shall advance
16. Appropriate attire shall be worn and will be neat, clean, and proper fitting. Non-tattered blouses, shirts, or jerseys must have a **Butterfly Collar or a MOCK COLLAR**, it must have sleeves and be hip length if not tucked in. Nice Pants or Jeans with **NO FRAYED HEMLINES; SHORTS may be worn if they go past the fingertips 2 inches while standing with arms relaxed by their side. NO SPORT SHORTS, sweatpants, gym pants, or Leggings WILL BE ALLOWED**). Bowlers will not wear hats/caps (unless medically approved). Youth are to be in bowling attire when checking in and must stay in the approved attire until finish bowling. Youth participants will not wear apparel or use bowling equipment depicting alcohol, tobacco, gambling, an illegal substance, or inappropriate Language/gestures during competition (USBC Rule 301b). Athletes may not smoke or consume alcoholic beverages. The settee and concourse areas will be smoke and alcohol free. This includes E-Cigs. Smoking and alcohol consumption by non-participants will be in designated areas only. **No electronic devices will be used by bowlers while bowling in the tournament.**
17. All matters not covered by these rules and regulations shall be determined by the State/Zone USBC Youth Championships Tournament Committee. The National USBC Youth Scratch Championships Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any participant.

Tournament Director: Ralph Mellecker, AZ State USBC
Address: 2310 E. Cristina Avenue
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Phone: (602) 614-8330
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STATE LEVEL OF COMPETITION IS FOR 12 & ABOVE BOY AND GIRL DIVISIONS

Entry Closing Date: February 22, 2026

Tournament Date: March 7, 2026

Location: AMF Union Hills, 3424 W. Union Hills Rd., Phoenix, AZ (623) 581-1595

Check-in time is 12:00 p.m., Bowling starts at 1:00 p.m.

NOTE: Advancers will be notified by the Tournament Director, Ralph Mellecker

State Finals Fees: 12 & Above Boys/Girls: \$35.00 Paid at the door.

Payment of fees can be made by Cash or by league check, money order, personal check, or cashier's check made payable to:

AZ State USBC

A fee of \$30.00 will be accessed for all returned checks

This tournament is certified by the United States Bowling Congress and shall be governed by USBC rules.

1. Advancement from league is a one-time entry. If an individual who qualified cannot participate in the state/zone competition, replacements will be eligible based on order of finish in previous competition. Replacements must be from the same sectional site as the individual unable to compete.
2. Advancement from the sectional sites will be the first 5 places and ties from the Northern site 12 & Above Boys and Girls Divisions and the first 5 places and ties from the Southern site for each of the 12 & Above Boys and Girls Divisions. In all cases at least one person per division shall advance.
3. **Advancers out of the league level must remain in the division they qualified in during all subsequent levels. If a bowler advances out of league level in more than one state/zone, the bowler must declare one state/zone to continue competing before the next competition level. Participation in any level of competition past the league level in more than one state/zone will result in automatic disqualification.**
4. **Entry closing date is February 22, 2026,** Tournament entry form containing qualifiers name, address, telephone number and Bowler USBC ID number must be submitted to the tournament director per Sectional Rule 6.
5. Competition shall be conducted in the following divisions: 12 & Above Boys & Girls ages as of August 1st, 2025.



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6. **Tournament Format:** The top 5 bowler's boys and girls will advance to the state finals is based on the scores bowled at the sectional sites as stated in rule 2. All previous scores will be dropped. Each bowler will bowl 6 games across 6 lanes, moving 1 pair to the right after every 2 games. The bowler's 6 game score will determine their final standing in this tournament.
7. **Entry fee is \$35.00.** Payable at tournament site by league check, money order, cashier's check, personal checks, or cash will be accepted. If using a check or money order it must be made payable to:

AZ State USBC

A fee of \$30.00 will be assessed for all returned checks
8. No substitutes will be permitted **once athletes have started tournament play**, however, replacements may be used for bowlers who are not present 15 minutes prior to the squad time. **Replacements in the State Finals must be from the order of finish from the Sectional level of competition.**
9. **AVERAGES:** Bowlers shall use one of the following methods:
 - a. their **highest current certified league average, as of February 1, 2026, of 15 games or more.**
 - b. If no average with the 15-game minimum as of February 1, 2025, then a bowler's history of a 15-game average bowled closest to the date of competition may be used. **If a bowler has ONLY a sport league average, then USBC Rule 201C will be used. The average adjustment chart in the USBC Rulebook will determine the "correct" average to be used.**
 - c. The highest book average from 2024-2025 bowling season
 - d. If a, b, or c does not apply, Bowler will be given a 220 average for handicap average.

Each league must provide an alphabetical list of their bowler's averages as of February 1, 2025, to include ONLY bowlers name, total pins, games bowled, and average.

Handicap shall be 90% of the difference between the bowler's average and 220.

10. Appropriate attire shall be worn and will be neat, clean, and proper fitting. Non-tattered blouses, shirts, or jerseys must have a **Butterfly Collar or a MOCK COLLAR**, it must have sleeves and be hip length if not tucked in. Nice Pants or Jeans with **NO FRAYED HEMLINES or SHORTS may be worn if they go past the fingertips 2 inches while standing with arms relaxed by their side. NO SPORT SHORTS, sweatpants, gym pants, or Leggings WILL BE ALLOWED**). Bowlers will not wear hats/caps (unless medically approved). Youth are to be in bowling attire when checking in and must stay in the approved attire until finish bowling. Youth participants will not wear apparel or use bowling equipment depicting alcohol, tobacco, gambling, illegal substances, or inappropriate Language/gestures during competition (USBC Rule 301b).



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11. Athletes may not smoke or consume alcoholic beverages. The settee and concourse areas will be smoke and alcohol free. This includes E-Cigs. Smoking and alcohol consumption by non-participants will be in designated areas only. **No electronic devices will be used by bowlers while bowling in the tournament.**
12. Competitors shall be allowed 10 minutes of practice on their starting lanes prior to the 6 game competitions. If no replacement has been made, bowlers arriving late shall begin play and the score shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. **Frames may not be made-up.** Missed frames shall be credited with a zero. A bowler who is not present when it is their turn to bowl will be credited with a zero for that frame.
13. Only bowlers, tournament officials and center staff shall be permitted in the settee area. If needed the Tournament Director may authorize additional people in the settee area on a case-by-case basis but if only determined necessary by the Tournament Director.
14. Ties will be broken by a one game roll-off. Should a tie still exist, it will be broken by an additional 9th and 10th frame roll-off, (Refer to rule 326a).
15. Claims for errors in scoring or general playing rules must be made to the tournament director no later than 30 minutes after the completion of competition. Questionable errors shall be decided upon by the tournament director. All other protests must be confirmed in writing to the tournament director within 72 hours of the infraction. Under this rule, each protest must be specific in itself.
16. Symbolic Awards will be given to the 1st Place Winner.
17. Scholarships will be presented to finalists on a 1 in 5 ratio of the Sectional Entries in each of the 12 & Above Boy/Girl divisions. The tournament director is responsible for submitting the scholarships and recipients to the SMART Program, who will administer the scholarships.

Scholarships will be held in SMART Account #08583

Contact: (800) 514-2695 Ext. 8968

18. **The 1st and 2nd Place winners of the 12 & Above Girls and Boys Divisions will received a paid entry into the 2025-2026 Bowling.com Youth Open Championships on July 11th—18th, 2026 in Minneapolis, Minn. The entry fees paid by the AZ STATE USBC YOUTH will be for Scratch & Handicapped Team, Doubles, Singles, & All Events.**
19. **These athletes will compete for additional scholarships available to all athletes at the championships, as well as other prizes and awards. The Arizona State USBC will provide a \$500.00 stipend to the first-place & second place winners of the 12 & above Boy & Girl divisions to offset some of their expenses to the Youth Open Championships. The Stipend will be issued after participating in the Tournament and upon the presentation of supporting receipts of actual expenses to the Tournament Director. If the 12 & above division champions and runner up are unable or unwilling to attend the Youth Championship Tournament, he/she will not advance to the Championships the athlete will still retain the state/zone scholarships, but the berth and any available stipends to the 2026 Bowling.com Youth Open Championship will be awarded to the next eligible athlete.**



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20. Eligible advancers must agree to bowl in the Bowling.com Youth Open Championships; failing to do so, you agree to waive all your rights and replacements will be selected based on the order of finish in their division at the state level. Replacements will incur all costs associated with changing the airline ticket, if applicable.
21. In the event that a qualifier needs to be replaced and there is a tie to determine who will advance to the Junior Gold Championships, the high game from the qualifying scores will determine who will advance. If the high scores for each is the same, then the next subsequent high score will be used until the tie is broken.
22. All matters not covered by these rules and regulations shall be determined by the State/Zone USBC Youth Championships Tournament Committee. The National USBC Youth Championships Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any participant.

Tournament Director: Ralph Mellecker, AZ State USBC
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Phone: (602) 614-8330
Email: usbcyouth@gmail.com
Website: www.azstateusbc.org

2025-2026 AZ State Youth Handicap Sectional Tournament

North Sectional--AMF Union Hills Phoenix

November 1, 2025 Squad 1 Time: 1:00pm

November 2, 2025 Squad 2 Time: 1:00pm

Please Circle One: Squad 1: Squad 2	Bowling Center: _____ Phone#: _____				
	Youth Coordinator: _____ Phone#: _____				
	Youth Coordinitor Email Address _____				
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
				Boy or Girl	
	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
				Boy or Girl	
	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
				Boy or Girl	
	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
				Boy or Girl	
	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
				Boy or Girl	
	Address	City	Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid

2025-2026 AZ State Youth Handicap Sectional Tournament
 South Sectional--Cactus Bowl Tucson
 November 1, 2025 Squad 1 Time: 1:00pm
 November 2, 2025 Squad 2 Time: 1:00pm

Please Circle One: Squad 1: Squad 2	Bowling Center: _____ Phone#: _____ Youth Coordinator: _____ Phone#: _____ Youth Coordinator Email Address: _____					
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025	
	First	Last				
	Address	City				
	Zip					
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025	
	First	Last				
	Address	City				
	Zip					
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025	
	First	Last				
	Address	City				
	Zip					
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025	
	First	Last				
	Address	City				
	Zip					
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025	
	First	Last				
	Address	City				
	Zip					
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025	
	First	Last				
	Address	City				
	Zip					

2025-2026 AZ State Youth Handicap Finals Tournament
 Finals--AMF Union Hills Phoenix
 March 7, 2026 @ 1:00pm

Please Circle One: Squad 1:	Bowling Center: _____ Phone#: _____ Youth Coordinator: _____ Phone#: _____ Youth Coordinator Email Address: _____				
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
	Address				
	City		Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
	Address				
	City		Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
	Address				
	City		Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid
Certification Number	Legal Name		Date of Birth	Gender Please Circle One Boy or Girl	Average 10/20/2025
	First	Last			
	Address				
	City		Zip	Phone #	AMT of Fees Paid