



2026 Show Me St. Louis Classic Invitational Tournament



TOURNAMENT RULES

A. Competition

1. The Show Me St. Louis Classic Invitational Tournament is a United States Bowling Congress (USBC) and International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO) sanctioned handicap tournament and is open to men and women by invitation only. With the exception of specific rules (*noted below*), the tournament will apply the following:
 - a. All USBC rules (https://bowl.com/getmedia/cabf49db-8cc5-4ce4-abc0-dfca1a1d7706/071724_USBC-Playing-Rules.pdf)
 - b. All IGBO (<https://www.igbo.org/>) rules
 - c. The use of only USBC approved bowling balls (https://stage-site.bowl.com/getmedia/8b570e80-761c-4486-8628-9d50d718dd60/approved_balllist_CURRENT.pdf)
2. All tournament play will be conducted at Concord Bowl, 11801 Tesson Ferry Road, St. Louis, Missouri.
3. Events and Dates
 - a. Teams - Saturday, September 5, 2026
 - b. Doubles - Saturday, September 5, 2026
 - c. Singles - Sunday, September 6, 2026
4. Each event will consist of three (3) games.
5. Competition in each event will be limited to one time.
6. Tournament Management reserves the right to rescind tournament invitation to individuals for not reporting all their tournament scores and the name of the league(s) with averages and number of games bowled.
7. The Show Me St. Louis Classic Invitational Tournament is not a national USBC tournament so there will be no ball restrictions other than the elimination of balance holes instituted by USBC, on August 1, 2020.

B. Eligibility

1. All participants must be USBC and IGBO members.
 - a. **USBC membership is required** prior to the start of tournament play. Participants who are not USBC members can qualify by paying either:
 - 1) USBC associate membership dues
 - 2) \$5 USBC participation fee (USBC Rule 300c)
 - b. **IGBO membership is required** prior to the start of tournament play. Participants who are not IGBO members can qualify by paying for their Associate IGBO annual membership dues through the SMC tournament registration process OR directly through the IGBO membership website (<https://membership.igbo.org/>).

2. All participants must be of adult age. Transgender participants will compete as their valid ID designates. Tournament Management reserves the right to check identification to verify date of birth and gender.
 3. Doubles pairs and Teams may be composed of all men, all women or mixed. Men and women will compete on an equal basis.
 4. There shall only be 1 (one) PBA Card member per team.
 5. Tournament participants agree to be used in promotional media such as photo postings on social media sites. Participants may opt-out during registration check-in.
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C. Entering Average - The Entering Average used will be based on the following priority:

1. **2025-2026 USBC Standard Composite Average** of 21 or more games shown on Bowl.com as of August 15, 2026.
 2. **2024-2025 USBC Standard Composite Average** of 21 or more games shown on Bowl.com as of August 15, 2026.
 3. For bowlers without a 2025-2026 and 2024-2025 USBC Standard Composite Average, the following will apply (*in the following order*):
 - a. The highest 2025-2026 league average (minimum 21 games)
 - b. The highest 2024-2025 league average (minimum 21 games)
 4. For bowlers without any USBC Standard Composite Average or league average (minimum 21 games), the Entering Average shall be equal to the highest, verified USBC Standard Composite Average for the Show Me St. Louis Classic Invitational Tournament as of August 15, 2026, not to exceed 230.
 5. USBC Rule 319a.2 ("10 Pin Rule") will not apply.
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D. Average Adjustments (Rerating)

1. If a bowler has a current composite Tournament Average (comprised of a minimum of 21 games bowled between August 30, 2025, through August 15, 2026) that is higher than their composite Entering Average (as outlined in Rule C, *above*), they must use the composite Tournament Average as their Entering Average.
 2. If a bowler has a current composite Tournament Average (comprised of 20 games or less bowled between August 30, 2025, through August 15, 2026), the Entering Average will be recalculated using the composite Tournament Average (i.e., total pins and total games) together with the USBC Standard Composite Average.
 3. It is the bowler's responsibility to report ALL tournament scores that are relevant in calculating their current Tournament Average. Failure to report this information may result in AUTOMATIC disqualification and loss of all prize winnings – subject to Tournament Management discretion.
 4. Tournament Management has the authority to adjust the Entering Average of any bowler as set forth under items noted above (*i.e.*, D1 - D3, *above*) and USBC rules. All average adjustments will be completed prior to the start of the tournament. A bowler unwilling to accept an average adjustment will be unable to participate and will be entitled to a full refund
 5. Reporting of previous tournament winnings (USBC Rule 319d) will not apply.
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E. Average Verification

1. It is each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of their own average, whether originally submitted by the bowler, a team captain, or others. Valid means of verification are:
 - a. USBC Standard Composite Average (posted on BOWL.COM), or
 - b. League standing sheet(s), signed, and dated by a League/Tournament Officer, or
 - c. Signed and dated letter from League/Tournament President or Secretary specifying average, pins, and number of games bowled.
 2. Failure to use the correct average may disqualify tournament scores if the submitted average is lower than the correct average, thereby resulting in a lower classification of division or more handicap. Prize winnings will be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the correct average (USBC Rule 319a.3).
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F. Handicap - Handicap (per game) will be 90% of the difference between the bowler's Entering Average and 230. Negative handicaps shall not apply.

G. Entry Fee - The entry fee is **\$125** (US) per bowler if postmarked or submitted electronically before August 01, 2026 at 12:01 AM. The entry fee will be **\$135** (US) per bowler if postmarked or submitted electronically after August 01, 2026 at 12:02 AM through August 15, 2026 at 11:59 PM.

Entry fees must be in the form of money order, certified check to be made payable to Show Me Classic or directly online through the registration website. Mailed applications and fees are to be sent to: **PO Box 190773, St. Louis, MO 63119**.

ENTRY FEE DISBURSEMENT

Bowling Fees (linage)	\$ 27.00
Prize Fund	\$ 60.00
Banquet	\$ 25.00
Awards & Tournament Expenses	<u>\$ 13.00</u>
Total Entry Fees	\$ 125.00

H. Awards and Payout Ratio

1. All award categories will include handicap.
 - a. Team Event: High Series and High Game
 - b. Doubles Event: High Series and High Game
 - c. Singles Event: High Series and High Game
 - d. All-Events: High Series and High Game
 2. Payout ratio will be 1:6 for each event
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I. Protests - All decisions of the Tournament Director are final unless an appeal is made in accordance with USBC Rule 329.

J. Awards Banquet

LOCATION: Orlando Gardens
4300 Hoffmeister Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63125
(314) 638-6660

DATE: Sunday, September 6, 2026

TIME: **6:00 PM - 7:00 PM** (cocktail hour)
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (banquet)

COST: Included for tournament participants.
\$40 per additional guest (non-participant)

OPTIONAL EVENTS

A. Scratch Series/Game

1. **Entry fee: \$20 per bowler.** Fees can be paid with online registration or in-person during tournament registration on Friday, September 4, 2026, or Saturday, September 5, 2026 (*prior to the start of tournament play*).
 2. Scratch Divisions
 - A. Division A: Averages of 200 and above
 - B. Division B: Averages of 175-199
 - C. Division C: Averages of 150-174
 - D. Division D: Averages of 149 and under
 3. Award Categories (for each division) - A bowler may only win *one* award category
 - A. High Scratch Series
 - B. High Scratch Game
 4. Awards are based on the high 3-game, scratch series (from any event) and high, scratch game (from any event).
 5. Payout ratio for this event is a *minimum of 1:10*.
 6. Prize money will be 100% of the entry fees.
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B. Senior's Scratch and Handicap

1. **Entry fee is \$10 per bowler.** Fees can be paid with online registration or in-person during tournament registration on Friday, September 4, 2026, or Saturday, September 5, 2026 (*prior to the start of tournament play*).
 2. Open to all bowlers age 55 and older as of August 15, 2026.
 3. Award Categories - A bowler may only win *one* award category
 - A. High Scratch Series
 - B. High Scratch Game
 - C. High Handicap Series
 - D. High Handicap Game
 4. Awards are based on the high 3-game scratch series (from any event), high scratch game (from any event), high 3-game handicap series (from any event), and high handicap game (from any event).
 5. Payout ratio for this event is a *minimum of 1:10*.
 6. The payout will be 100% of the entry fees.
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C. Women's Handicap

1. **Entry fee: \$10 per bowler.** Fees can be paid with online registration or in-person during tournament registration on Friday, September 4, 2026, or Saturday, September 5, 2026 (*prior to the start of tournament play*).
 2. Award Categories - A bowler may only win *one* award category
 - A. High Handicap Series
 - B. High Handicap Game
 3. Awards are based on the high 3-game, handicap series (from any event) and high, handicap game (from any event).
 4. Payout ratio for this event is a *minimum of 1:10*.
 5. Prize money will be 100% of the entry fees.
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D. Mystery Score

1. **Entry Fee: \$30 per bowler** (*\$10 per each bowling event; Teams, Doubles, and Singles*). Fees can be paid during tournament registration.
 2. The mystery score applies to only games 1 and 2 of each event.
 3. Awards: The last two (2) digits of a score will be randomly generated, and the prize money will be split between all the entrants with a matching score. This process will continue until someone wins the mystery score for the game and the event.
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E. 9-Pin No-Tap Tournament

1. **Entry fee: \$20 per bowler** (*limit of one entry*). Fees can be paid with online registration or in-person during tournament registration on Friday, September 4, 2026 (*only*).
 2. Only bowlers that are registered for the 2026 Show Me St. Louis Classic Tournament are eligible to win awards in this event. Non-tournament participants can enter this event but are not eligible to win an award and their entry fee will be considered a donation to the tournament.
 3. Participants will be divided into the same divisions set for the optional Scratch Series/Game event as described above (Section A.2).
 4. After entry fee payment, a bowler may start anytime between 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (*depending on lane availability*).
 5. Each participant's scratch, 9-pin No-Tap, 3 game series score will be used.
 6. Payout ratio for this event is 1:6.
 7. Prize money will be 100% of the entry fees *minus lineage expenses for each division*.
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F. Scratch Masters

1. Divisions and Entry Fees
 - A. Division A: Averages 200 and above Entry fee: \$50
 - B. Division B: Averages 175-199 Entry fee: \$40
 - C. Division C: Averages 150-174 Entry fee: \$35
 - D. Division D: Averages 149 and under Entry fee: \$30
2. Fees can be paid with online registration or in-person during tournament registration on Friday, September 4, 2026, or Saturday, September 5, 2026 (*prior to the start of tournament play*).
3. The Scratch Masters competition will be held on Sunday, September 6, 2026. The start time of approximately 1 hour after the completion of the singles event to allow for lane dressing.
4. The six-game scratch total from the Team and Doubles events (September 5, 2026) will be used to rank the bowlers. In the event of a tie of the six-game scratch total, the bowler with the highest

- scratch game(s) from either event (Teams or Doubles) will be awarded the higher ranking. Teams and Doubles event scores will not carry over to the Scratch Masters Stepladder competition.
5. Based on bowler ranking (highest-to-lowest), six qualifiers and two alternates will be selected for the Scratch Masters Stepladder competition. ***If there are less than 10 bowlers in a division, the top half of the bowlers in the division will participate in the Stepladder Competition.***
 6. The list of the qualifiers and alternates will be posted after the completion of the Team event on the tournament website and the tournament Facebook page.
 7. Stepladder Competition
 - a. Bowlers must check in 15 minutes prior to the scheduled shift. A bowler who has not checked in 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start will be disqualified and replaced with the next available alternate.
 - b. Bowlers are allowed an *optional* 5 minutes of practice before each match.
 - c. Alterations or cleaning of the ball surface is permitted *before* the start of each match. Once that match play has started, alterations or cleaning of the ball surface is not permitted.
 - d. Each match will be composed of one game. All matches in each division will be bowled on the same pair of lanes.
 - e. Competition will be as follows:
 - 1) Match 1 - 6th Place Qualifier versus 5th Place Qualifier
 - 2) Match 2 - Match 1 winner versus 4th Place Qualifier
 - 3) Match 3 - Match 2 winner versus 3rd Place Qualifier
 - 4) Match 4 - Match 3 winner versus 2nd Place Qualifier
 - 5) Match 5 - Match 4 winner versus 1st Place Qualifier
 - f. If a tie exists during any game, a 9th and 10th frame roll off will determine the winner of that match.
 8. Scores for the Scratch Masters Event does not affect USBC tournament average.
 9. Payouts will be for 1st and 2nd place. If there are 6 or less bowlers in a division, payout will be for 1st Place *(only)*.
 10. Prize money will be 100% of the entry fees *minus lineage expenses for each division.*

Summary of Optional Events

		OPTIONAL EVENTS					
		Scratch Series/Game	Senior's Scratch and Handicap	Women's Handicap	Mystery Score	9-pin No-Tap Tournament	Scratch Masters
Entry Fee		\$20	\$10	\$10	\$30 (\$10 / event)	\$20	<i>varies</i>
Award Category *	High Scratch Series	X	X		Mystery Score for Game 1 & 2 for each event (Teams, Doubles, and Singles)	High Scratch Series (per Division)	Stepladder Competition 1st & 2nd Place (per Division)
	High Scratch Game	X	X				
	High Handicap Series		X	X			
	High Handicap Game		X	X			
Payout Ratio (per event)		1:10 (minimum)	1:10 (minimum)	1:10 (minimum)	n/a	1:6	n/a

* A bowler may only win one award category per event.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration and all bowling events will be held at:

Concord Bowl
11801 Tesson Ferry Road
St. Louis, MO 63128

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026



Registration
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

- **9 Pin No-Tap Tournament** *(optional)*
Start time at **5:00 PM - 9:00 PM**
Must start bowling before 9 PM.
\$20.00 per person (3 games)
Fees collected at bowling alley or pre-pay.
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026



Registration
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM

- **Teams Event**
10:00 AM
 - **Doubles Event**
2:00 PM
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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

- **Singles Event**
9:00 AM
- **Scratch Masters**
Start time after singles event and lane dressing.
- **Awards Banquet**
Orlando Gardens
4300 Hoffmeister Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63125
Happy Hour: **6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**
Banquet and Awards: **7:00 PM - 10:00 PM**