

WYBT RULES 2026-27

Entry Fee

\$60 (\$15 Lineage, \$36 Scholarship, \$5 Expenses, \$2 Awards, \$2 Year End)

(\$30 WYBT Membership assessed at the bowler's first tournament of the year)

NCAA bowlers not accepting scholarship will pay \$25

Online payment with venmo (@HigherBarBowling, check for the HBB logo)

Onsite Payment with venmo, cash, or checks ONLY.

Checks written out to **Wisconsin Youth Bowlers Tour.**

Certification

1. All bowlers competing must be a certified USBC member 22 years of age or younger as of August 1st, 2026. (No bowlers may turn 24 during the season).
 - 1.1. Bowlers that are above the U18 age division will be USBC adult sanctioned and allowed to compete.
 - 1.1.1. All payouts will be in the form of scholarship dollars. No cash payouts will be awarded.

Registration

2. Bowlers must register for tournaments online at WYBT.org before events.
 - 2.1. While the roster will be posted on our facebook page, *requests to be added to the roster on facebook are not official and your spot will not be guaranteed.*
3. Paid registrations are guaranteed to hold your spot until check-in ends at 9am. Non prepaid registrations should check in before 8:45, after which walk-ins will be allowed to enter the tournament if the tournament was previously identified as full.

Divisions

4. There are three divisions of competition. Boys Scratch, Girls Scratch, and Handicap.
5. All new bowlers must present a sanctioned league average. Bowlers with an average 191 and over will be placed in their respective scratch division. Bowlers with an average 190 or under will be placed into the handicap division.
6. Handicap will be taken as **80% of 200**. Handicap will be taken from the highest league average from 2025-2026 with 21 games or more. All handicap bowlers will be re-rated with a WYBT tournament average after 6 games of tournament play.
 - 6.1. If there is a difference of more than 20 pins between a bowler's book and WYBT average after a bowler's first tournament, the next tournament's

handicap will be taken from the average of book and tournament averages (equally weighted).

- 6.2. At the beginning of a new season, previous handicap bowlers will use last year's WYBT tournament average (Minimum 18 games) until their new 6 game tournament average goes into effect. (a 20 pin difference following this event will use the rule stated above)
- 6.3. Once a bowler competes in the scratch division, they can no longer compete in the handicap division for the rest of the season.
- 6.4. Any bowler with an average 190 and under may opt into the scratch division.

Format and Competition Rules

- 7. Tournament check-in begins at 8am, practice begins at 9am (unless noted otherwise). Walk-ins are allowed if there is space.
- 8. Tournaments will be contested on Sport conditions (Junior Gold and College patterns)
- 9. Tournaments will have a maximum of 8 bowlers per pair.
- 10. Events will be split into two tiers, Tier 1 and tier 2 events.
 - 10.1. Tier 1 events will be contested on more difficult lane conditions. Lane conditions will not be revealed until the tournament is completed.
 - 10.1.1. Tier 1 events will have a 6 ball limit for bowlers. Bowlers will fill out a ball card stating bowling balls selected for the tournament. Any bowler found to be using balls not listed on the ball card will first be assessed a \$25 fine and receive a 0 for any frames where the

illegal ball is used. Any subsequent violations will result in disqualification.

10.1.1.1. Any damaged bowling balls can be replaced by another ball after approval by a tournament official.

10.2. Tier 2 events will reveal the lane condition before the event begins at 8:00.

11. Bowlers that compete in 3 regular season events are allowed to enter the year end tournament.
12. Bowler's scores must be verified by the bowler below them each game with an initial on their scoresheet.
13. Surface adjustments may be made to bowling balls before each round of competition. You may not alter surface after each round has begun for score. This includes abralon/sandpaper, ball cleaners, etc.
14. Tournament formats will include the following:
 - 14.1. **Single Elimination Bracket:** Cut to the lesser of $\frac{1}{4}$ of bowlers or top 16 bowlers after 6 games of qualifying (and still pay out to the top $\frac{1}{4}$ of players). Pins do not carry over. Two games total pins to determine the winner of each match. When a player loses one match they are out of the bracket.
 - 14.1.1. Any ties for the last spot in the bracket after qualifying will be broken by a 9th and 10th frame rolloff. Two balls of practice on each lane will be awarded.
 - 14.1.2. Any ties in a match will be broken by a 1 ball rolloff.

14.2. **Double Elimination Bracket:** Cut to the lesser of $\frac{1}{4}$ of bowlers or top 14 bowlers after 6 games of qualifying (and still pay out to the top $\frac{1}{4}$ of players). Pins do not carry over. One game total pins to determine the winner of each match. When a player loses one match they enter into the consolation bracket. When a player has lost two matches they are out of the bracket.

14.2.1. Any ties for the last spot in the bracket after qualifying will be broken by a 9th and 10th frame rolloff.

14.2.2. Any ties in a match will be broken by a 1 ball rolloff.

14.3. **Round Robin match play:** Cut to the lesser of $\frac{1}{4}$ of bowlers or top 12 bowlers after 6 games of qualifying (and still pay out to the top $\frac{1}{4}$ of players). Pins will carry over. Bowlers will bowl one match against each finalist. The winner of each match will receive 30 bonus pins. The final game will be a position round. Scores will be re-tallied and bowlers will be re-seeded by total pins + bonus pins. The bowler with the most pins + bonus pins wins.

14.3.1. Any ties for the last spot in matchplay after qualifying will be broken by a 9th and 10th frame rolloff.

14.3.2. Any ties in a match will result in both players receiving 15 bonus pins.

14.3.3. Any ties for 1st place after all rounds have been completed will be decided by the record between the two opponents in matchplay.

14.3.4. If the record is tied, the final tiebreaker will be total scratch pins.

14.4. Bowlers will move to the right after each qualifying game.

15. **First-to-3, Top 5 Stepladder:** Cut to the lesser of $\frac{1}{4}$ of bowlers or top 16 bowlers after 6 games of qualifying (and still pay out to the top $\frac{1}{4}$ of players). Pins do not carry over. Each game won in a match counts for one point. The first bowler to earn 3 points will be the winner of each match. When a player loses one match they are out of the bracket.

15.1. Any ties for the last spot in the bracket after qualifying will be broken by a 9th and 10th frame rolloff. Two balls of practice on each lane will be awarded.

15.2. Any ties in a match-game will be broken by a 1 ball rolloff.

15.3. Any matches tied 2-2 after 4 games will be broken by a 2-ball total pinfall rolloff.

15.3.1. Any additional ties will follow rule 15.2.

Code of Conduct for Bowlers and Parents

16. Bowlers must read the Code of Conduct form and fill out the “general event form” before their first tournament in order to compete. Violations of the WYBT code of conduct will be reviewed by the tournament director and advisory council. Consequences for violating the code of conduct will either be listed in the following rules or up to the discretion of tournament officials. All decisions made by tournament officials are final.

17. Only bowlers and tournament officials are allowed in the settee area during tournament play. Bowlers may talk to coaches, parents, and spectators outside of the bowler's area.
 - 17.1. Bowlers must be ready to bowl when it is their turn. After the first offense a verbal warning will be given. After a second offense the bowler will be assessed a \$10 fine. Subsequent offenses may lead to disqualification.
18. Any bowlers who have made the cut but have left the bowling center will not be called/waited on to return. The next highest qualifier will receive the spot. If pins carry over the alternate bowler will keep their current pincount.
19. Bowlers must act professionally and responsibly during tournament play. Any bowler that is being unsportsmanlike will be given one warning, any subsequent offenses will result in fines/disqualification.
 - 19.1. Behavior is not limited to the bowler. Any parent, coach, or guest that violates conduct rules may be asked to leave and may be refused entry to future WYBT events.
20. Bowlers must be dressed in bowling attire. A collared shirt or bowling jersey is required. Bowlers may wear dress pants/shorts or skirts at an appropriate length. No jeans, hats, t-shirts, or leggings/yoga pants may be worn during competition. No headphones or earbuds may be worn during competition.
 - 20.1. *No headphones or earbuds may be worn during practice or tournament play.* Any bowler found wearing headphones or earbuds will be assessed a \$10 fine, any subsequent offences will result in disqualification.
 - 20.2. No electronic devices may be used during tournament play by bowlers.

- 20.2.1. Any bowler found vlogging/recording while it is their turn to bowl will be given a warning, followed by a \$10 fine, followed by disqualification. No video recording can interrupt pace of play or distract players from tournament competition.
21. No staff that have been let go by the organization are allowed to be on-site during tournament competition. No WYBT members may be working for the bowling center during a WYBT tournament and also compete in that same event

Points System

22. Bowlers will receive points based on their performance in every tournament, excluding the year end tournament. The top point winners in each division will be named Bowler of the Year and/or Rookie of the Year.

Our points system will purposely be a reflection of the “powerpoints” ranking system used by collegebowling.com to rank college teams. Tier 1 events will be worth more points than Tier 2 events.

Points will be awarded according to the following:

- 22.1. Tier 1 events:

- 22.1.1. These events will give 250 points for a first place finish.

- 22.1.2. .5 points will be awarded for each competitor a bowler finishes higher than in the tournament.
- 22.1.3. Bowlers finishing 2nd place and lower will receive a percentage of the 250 “base points”. The percentage is based on your relative finish within the number of total bowlers in the field.
- 22.1.4. Bowlers are guaranteed to earn a minimum of 50 points
- 22.2. Tier 2 events:
 - 22.2.1. These events will give 150 points for a first place finish.
 - 22.2.2. .5 points will be awarded for each competitor a bowler finishes higher than in the tournament.
 - 22.2.3. Bowlers finishing 2nd place and lower will receive a percentage of the 150 “base points”. The percentage is based on your relative finish within the number of total bowlers in the field.
 - 22.2.4. Bowlers are guaranteed to earn a minimum of 25 points

Junior Gold Qualifying

- 23. Junior Gold qualifiers will be held if there are at least 4 bowlers signed up in a division. This is based on interest by competitors on-site. Qualifiers will be based on each bowler’s entire 6 game qualifying block.
- 24. U18/U16 division entry fee is \$60, U14 division entry fee is \$50, and U12 division entry fee is \$40. The junior gold qualifying ratio will be 1:4 (1 in 4). 4 bowlers need to enter in any division for a spot to be awarded. The next highest qualifying

bowler may elect to pay the difference for their Junior Gold spot. If the next eligible bowler declines, the spot is not offered to the next bowler.

Divisions:

U12 Aug 1, 2014 ----- Current date (Born on or after Aug 1 2014)

U14 Aug 1, 2012 ----- July 31, 2014 (Born on or after Aug 1 2012)

U16 Aug 1, 2010 ----- July 31, 2012 (Born on or after Aug 1 2010)

U18 Aug 1, 2008 ----- July 31, 2010 (Born on or after Aug 1 2008)

- 24.1. Bowlers must have a Junior Gold Membership to enter the Junior Gold qualifier.
- 24.2. The Junior Gold qualifier uses your scratch total from qualifying games 1-6.
- 24.3. Any ties for a Junior Gold spot after qualifying will be broken by a 9th and 10th frame rolloff.
- 24.4. Further ties will be broken by a 1 ball rolloff.

25. Bowlers will respect the decisions made by tournament officials and all decisions made by tournament officials are final. For any rules discrepancies confer with the tournament director.