

Arlington Lanes

ABT SoCal Invitational League Rules

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League Name: ABT SoCal Invitational League #: Season: Fall 2025-26
Co-sponsored by ABT/Brunswick/South Point Bowling Plaza

Day: Wednesday Practice Time: 6:50pm Start Time: 7:00pm # Weeks + Sweeps: 42+1

Of Teams: 26 Ratio: Any # per team: 4

Start Date: 9/10/25 Final Day: 7/8/26 Fil-Am Team Challenge/Sweepers: 7/19/26

Group Position/Position Weeks: 11/12/25, 2/4/26, 4/15/26, 6/24/26, 7/1/26, and 7/8/26 Byes: 11/26/25, 12/24/25, & 12/31/25

- MANAGEMENT:** The management of this league shall be vested in the Board of Directors, which consists of the league officers and team captains. The board shall handle all business and disputes. It requires a 100% written vote of the board to change any rule once it is approved.
- CERTIFICATION:** This league will be certified by the rules of USBC and the Citrus Belt BA. Certification fees for men and women are \$30.00. Membership card must be filled out and must be paid by the completion of the bowler's first series. **Bowlers NOT certified are ineligible and are the responsibility of the TEAM CAPTAIN to make sure all bowlers on the team is certified. Fee breakdown, National- \$15, State-\$2, and Local- \$13. If new subs do not submit sanction cards before completion of their series, the team will forfeit games played with the ineligible bowler.**
- RULES:** All rules not covered herein, the league will abide by the rules of USBC and their local Association.
- LEAGUE FEES:**
 - League fees shall be \$30.00, \$ 13.50 for bowling lineage and record keeping service with the balance of \$ 16.50 for prize fund. \$1 of the weekly league fee will be for a bowling ball raffle entry for each permanent rostered member. 26 Bowling Balls will be raffled off every week starting on week 5 and ending on week 31. Each bowler could only win one of the 26 balls being raffled off weekly during the season. There may be traditional ball raffles with proceeds going to the prize fund.
 - The franchise fee of \$120 paid by each team captain will be applied to the first week of bowling for each team.**
 - \$1 of the weekly fee will be go towards the secretary Fee. These funds will be held in the league accounts payable upon completion of secretarial duties.
 - Last three weeks of league (including sweepers) must be prepaid (double pay weeks) on 9th, 13th and 15th week. No Payment on week 5 due to secretary absence. 4 other Double Pay weeks to make for the 4 weeks of no payment
 - It is the TEAM CAPTAIN'S RESPONSIBILITY TO COLLECT ALL LEAGUE FEES from each team member and return pay envelopes to the Secretary no later than the end of the FIRST game.**
 - MEMBERS PRESENT TO BOWL MUST PAY.** Absent bowlers must make up all due fees upon returning plus current fees owed. Except for absenteeism, if members are not current in league fees, the team will FORFEIT all points while the shortage exists. If a bowler is more than 3 weeks owed for league fees, vacancy score will be used until payments are current.
 - When paying via Zelle, Paypal, Venmo or CashApp, payments must be received by 9pm of the day of the league or it is considered non-payment for that week and could be grounds for forfeiture if not up to date with league fees.
 - All shortages, including No-bowler prize fund shortages will be deducted from a team's earnings at the end of the season.
 - Total cost of league is \$ 1,250 (\$1,198 league fees, \$42 secretary, and \$20 Uniform). Optional Additional \$60 for Round Robin Doubles for Sweepers
- OTHER FEES:** Mystery Number, Football Pool, Poker, Brackets, 3/6/9, and Strike Out, 50/50, Bingo, LWAL, and other side action may be available weekly. Proceeds will go to the Prize Fund
- LEAGUE FUNDS:** The league shall deposit their prize monies with the Arlington Lanes Deposit Service. Two officers' signatures are required to make withdrawals from this account. According to USBC Rule 102, the president is responsible for verifying the bank balance monthly. By the second week of bowling the president shall appoint an AUDIT COMMITTEE, consisting of three people. This committee shall perform an audit at least once during the season. The president will present prize fund options by the 5th week for approval of the league.
- AVERAGES:** Entering averages for the Fall 2024-25 season will be as follows:
 - Ending average from ABT MI Fall 2023-24 (minimum 21 games). If none, then,
 - Highest Book average (on www.bowl.com as of date bowler joins the league) for last 3 Seasons starting 2022-23 to 2024-25 of at least 21 games (Winter or Summer), Composite average of at least 21 games will be used, if greater.
 - If no a, or b, then use **200 Average men and 165 women to meet team max** and bowler will establish first week of bowling.
PLEASE NOTE: Team max shall be: 800 using entering averages above. It is the team captain's responsibility to avoid forfeiture of games if team is over 800.
 - If bowler has an entering average per a or b above, entering averages will be used for first 9 games.
 - If bowler has an entering average per a or b above, 10 Pin drop rule will be in effect for season and sweepers
- HANDICAP:** Individual handicap to be used shall be 90 % of 240. No Bowler or vacancy bowler use 75% of 240 for 3 weeks (140 Score, 75 Handicap), on the 4th consecutive week, minus 10 (140 Score, 65 Handicap). For those with entering averages, a 10pin drop rule will be enforced after 9 games on a weekly basis. In an event of a vacancy, the team will be responsible for paying the prize fund money for that spot
- ABSENTEE SCORES:** The absentee score shall be the bowler's average -10. Handicap shall be unchanged. Absentee score may be used for a maximum of three consecutive weeks. After 3 weeks revert back to a vacancy score.
- VACANCY SCORES:** In the event a team is short a bowler or bowlers in its roster, a vacancy score of 150 will be used with handicap as defined for No Bowler in Rule 8. A team with a no bowler spot will have to accept a new bowler that fits the team maximum.
- TARDY BOWLERS:** Tardy bowlers are allowed to begin bowling from the first frame with scores to count provided the anchorperson on the opposing team has not concluded his/her third frame.
- LEGAL LINEUP:** A legal lineup consists of 2 permanent rostered bowlers to complete the first frame. A team that does not have a legal line-up after present bowlers on each team complete the first frame will forfeit the game except in an emergency as decided by the board of directors.
- SUBSTITUTES:** Roving subs are allowed. No subs may bowl for a vacancy spot. No pacers. No subs allowed during position round, last 3 weeks of regular Season and sweepers. SUB MUST PAY \$5.00 PER SERIES - ADDED TO PRIZEFUND. Failure to pay \$5 sub fee will be deducted from End of Season Team prize fund. Any Permanent replacements must stay on the team for at least 4 weeks. If replaced before then, a \$20 fine will be imposed.
- FINAL LINEUPS** Permanent replacement bowler will be allowed up until the last 6 weeks of regular league play. Permanent rosters must be finalized before start of league on 6/3/26. No subs are allowed two weeks before last position, during position rounds, roll-offs, and Fil-Am Team Challenge/sweeper.

15. EMERGENCIES: In emergencies, the captain of the team unable to attend shall notify the opposing team captain, Secretary, and/or President at the earliest opportunity. The Board of Directors will decide what is and is not an emergency.

16. POSITION STANDINGS: The league will use the Match Point system. Standings will be determined on a match-point basis. Each bowler on a team is paired by position against a bowler on the opposite team. The bowler with the highest score including handicap for the game wins a point. Simultaneously, the team with the most total pins wins the point for the game and 2 points for the series .

- Team in the higher current position standings enters its line-up first. Changes may NOT be made during a series even if a bowler is late. Subs replace bowler's position in line-up. NOTE: First Week, odd number team enters lineup first.
- When bowling against an absentee or vacancy, to win the individual points the bowler must bowl at least their average less (10) pins. If each team has the same number of absentees and or vacancies, the players present must be placed in opposition to each other for individual matches & the winning team credited with the points for absentees/vacancies.
- If the bowler is bowling against an absentee or vacancy doesn't bowl at least their average less 10 pins, the point goes to the absentee bowler or in the case of vacancies, the point goes to the team with the vacant bowler.
- 21 possible points per night; Possible 5 points per game (4 Individual, 1 Team); 4 Individual Series Points, 2 Points total team series.

17. POSTPONEMENTS: Request for postponements must be made with one of the league officers prior to start of practice. Notifying the front desk in NOT proper notification. Unopposed bowling will be allowed. In case of an emergency, the Board of Directors will determine what is sufficient cause for postponements. Any team pre-bowling or post-bowling shall be responsible for obtaining a print out from the front desk after the series. Make-ups/pre-bowl need to be scheduled with the front desk. All teams who pre-bowl or makeup cannot change the lineup order. The order must be as it appears on the recap sheet for the week bowled. **Pre-bowl fee is \$10.00 / make-up fee is \$20.00. After 3 pre-bowls/make-ups, fees will double. If the opposing teams arrange to pre-bowl or makeup against each other, fees will be waived.** If a legal lineup cannot be present due to participation in any ABT Event, or the USBC Open Championships, state or local Assoc, the fee is waived.

Position Rounds: No make-ups allowed for all position rounds unless the teams are making up in direct opposition in which case, the makeup needs to be bowled by the following Thursday of the position round except for last position round where no makeups are allowed. No subs are allowed during any position rounds. Pre-Bowl unopposed for position rounds is allowed when a team CANNOT FIELD A LEGAL LINEUP due to the following reasons:

- Some of its bowlers are participating in the USBC Championships, state or local association
- There is sufficient cause
- An emergency situation

Requests for pre-bowl unopposed for position rounds must be requested at least one week prior to the scheduled position round. An announcement prior to league play any week before the position round will be made to see if there any objections. If no objection, pre-bowl request will be granted. If there are objections, then a meeting will be held for a formal vote. If the team pre-bowling has a chance to tie for 1st, 2nd or 3rd position, an extra pre-bowled game should be bowled to be used as the roll-off game, if necessary.. Position round pre-bowl fee, if granted, will be \$20

ALL MAKEUPS MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN 2 WEEKS OF MISSED WEEK OR THE MONDAY BEFORE POSITION ROUND, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. Team doing makeup/prebowl must use the lineup as it appears on the recap sheet.

18. Last position round and Fil-Am Team Challenge/sweeper: To be eligible for final position and Fil-Am Team Challenge/sweeper, the permanent team member must have a minimum of 21 games.

19. RESIGNATIONS: Any person(s) or team(s) that drop out of the league must give a two week notice in writing to the secretary. This team(s) or person(s) are responsible for paying two weeks fees if no replacement is found immediately. Any member dropping from the league will forfeit all prize fund monies unless arrangements have been made with the Board of Directors in writing.

20. AWARDS: Bowlers must bowl 2/3 of league to be eligible for individual awards. Handicap for individual awards must be computed after the series in which the bowlers bowl his or her 21st Game. A bowler can qualify for only one award: either High Series, or High Game. High Series takes precedence over high game. Scratch awards take precedence over handicap awards. Subs are not eligible for league awards.

21. CHECKS: If any check written by a league bowler is returned to us by the bank/Arlington Lanes, that check, along with a service charge* will be subtracted from the league's prize fund up to the amount of prize fund which that bowler has coming to them at that point. This will happen only after the bowler is given 7 days to redeem the check on his or her own. NO checks accepted after May 28, 2025.

22. Make Checks Payable to: Arlington Lanes.

*Service Charge: 1st offence \$30.00, 2nd offence \$30.00. After 2nd check, no checks will be accepted from offending bowler.

23. NO cashing of personal checks allowed at front desk.

24. HOUSE RULES: All league bowlers will abide by the following rules

- OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES:** It is the established policy of Arlington Lanes that any and all types of outside food and/or beverages be restricted from being brought into the center without prior consent and approval of the General Manager.
- CHILDREN:** No children or non-bowlers are allowed in the bowler's area at any time during league play.
- EQUIPMENT:** Abuse to any equipment will result in dismissal of the individual from the league and possible banning from the Center.
- DISPUTES:** Arlington Lanes will not become involved in any league dispute.
- LOST AND FOUND:** Arlington Lanes will not be responsible for equipment or clothing left in the center.
- SMOKING AND VAPING:** Not allowed anywhere in the center

25. LEAGUE SPECIFIC RULES:

- This league will be sponsored by the Amateur Bowlers Tour, South Point, and Brunswick Bowling
- League Uniforms:** League uniforms will be a required purchase. These uniforms are partially sponsored by ABT, South Point & Brunswick. The Bowler's responsibility will be \$20 for all original members of a team due on the 6th week of bowling. (Cost subject to change pending uniform committee recommendations and board approval). The cost for replacement bowlers will be \$35 and is required. League Uniforms will be required to be worn every 1st Wednesday of each month beginning in November and during Fil-Am Team Challenge. A fine of \$5 will be collected if you don't wear your uniform when required. Any single bowler exemptions to the uniform rule could be granted if approved by board of director's majority vote.
- ABT Membership required for all league members** – All league bowlers, permanent and substitutes, must be a current ABT member. All Permanent members as of the start of league will be an ABT member at no cost to the bowler. All substitutes and permanent rostered replacements will be required to pay a special league annual ABT membership fee of \$10. If he/she is already an ABT member, the fee is waived. If you are ineligible to be an ABT member for any reason, you will not be allowed to bowl in the league.
- The league has the right to rerate upward any time a bowler is found not bowling to their potential with 2/3 vote of the board.
- Should first place clinch by the last position round they shall bowl the last place team. If both first and second place teams clinch their respective positions, they bowl each other.

26. SWEEPERS:

- Team event and Singles are guaranteed
- Round Robin Doubles (Optional): Each bowler may choose to pay \$60.00 for 3 games and series (\$15 per game/series). Prize money will be 3 separate games and series. Break down for doubles to be determined by prize fund committee.
- \$8 for Sweeper Scoring Services will be deducted from the overall prize fund whether you play or not.
- League to follow 10 pin drop rule for Fil-Am Team Challenge/sweepers
- Hotel rooms will NOT be provided by the league. A group rate will be negotiated. More info to follow.
- Special ABT Squad at the Fil-Am Team Challenge to be held at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas on Sunday July 19, 2026 at 10AM. **THE TEAM EVENT ONLY for all teams for the Fil-Am Team Challenge will be paid for by the league.** Scores bowled during this squad will be used to pay out the ABT MI Sweeper prize fund for Team, Singles, and Optional Doubles.