

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The *Metro Phoenix USBC Association Open Championship Tournament* is open to all current certified Metro Phoenix USBC and Mesa Metropolitan USBC members. Members of other USBC Associations are eligible provided they pay the transfer fees prior to the start of the tournament.
2. A bowler may bowl twice in the team event, with a maximum of two (2) bowlers, from the original team, bowling on the second entry. When a bowler is a member of more than one team, the first scores bowled will be used for all-events. Multiple entries will not be allowed for doubles, singles, or all events.
3. Members of any professional bowlers' organization shall be limited to two (2) members in the Team Event and one (1) member in the Doubles Event.
4. Three (3) games will be bowled in each event. Doubles and Singles will be bowled on the same pair of lanes.
5. Participants must enter both Doubles and Singles events, in order to compete in either. Doubles will be bowled first.
6. Averages:
 - a. Entrants shall use their highest 2021-22 league average (winter) minimum 21 games.
 - b. If no 2021-22 league average is available, the bowler will use the highest average as of March 10, 2023, minimum of 21 games. The secretary of the league, in which the highest average is being bowled, must verify average.
 - c. If neither of the above the bowler will be assigned an average of 230.
 - d. Bowlers with a Sport/Challenge average, will have their average adjusted using the USBC Average Adjustment Chart, if the bowler does not have a standard average.
 - e. Bowlers are responsible for verifying their own average, whether submitted by the bowler, the team captain, or some other person. Failure to use the proper average will result in disqualification if submitted average is lower than the actual average. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the correct average. Corrections may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series.
 - f. USBC Rule 319(a) is applicable for this tournament. If at the time of bowling, the current season average, minimum of 21 games, is 10 pins or more higher than the 2021-22 league average, the current average must be used.
 - g. USBC Rule 319(c) dealing with average adjustments applies. Bowlers whose tournament average, for a minimum of 21 games, is at least 15 pins higher than their yearbook average, will be re-rated to their tournament average.
 - h. USBC Rules 319 (d) and 319(e) will not apply.
7. Handicap will be 90% of the difference between bowler's average and 230, with no negative handicap.
8. Tournament participants are not allowed to practice on their scheduled lanes within two hours of squad time.
9. Championship Awards will be given for the highest scratch score in each event and division. In the event of a tie in any event or any division, Co-Champion will be declared.
10. Cash Prizes will be awarded based on division for all Handicap Events (Team, Doubles, and Singles).
11. Entrants not paying the optional Handicap All Events fee or the Scratch All Events fee will not be eligible for cash prizes in either the Scratch or Handicap All Events but will be eligible for the Championship Trophy.
12. Prize fees will be returned 100% with a minimum ratio of 1 to 6 in each event (with the exception of the Scratch and/or Handicap All Events which will be a minimum of 1 to 12 in either event.)
13. Bowlers shall register 30 minutes prior to their scheduled squad starting time. Late bowlers may bowl in accordance with USBC Rule 322. All participants will bowl at their scheduled squad time or be subject to forfeiture of their entry. There will be no lineup changes in any event.
14. Substitutions made at the tournament site must complete the entire series in which they substituted. Examples: Team for Team, Doubles/Singles for Doubles/Singles.
15. No entry fees will be returned after the tournament has begun. (USBC Rule 314)
16. No unreasonable delay in the progress of any game will be permitted. (USBC Rule 11)
17. All decisions of the tournament committee will be final, unless an appeal is filed with tournament management. (USBC Rule 329)
18. No Bowler shall be permitted to use any ball that has not been released to the general public at the time of the event.
19. In an effort to keep the squads on time one-lane courtesy is requested.
20. Reserved entry deadline is March 10, 2023. If space permits entries will be accepted up to March 23, 2023.
21. Tournament/Association management reserves the right to cancel any tournament and/or squad, due to lack of entries/participation, by the closing date of the tournament, or as deemed necessary. All entries with fees would be returned to the team captains.
22. The current USBC Playing Rules Book shall govern any rule not covered above.
23. DRESS CODE: Proper bowling attire: Allowed - Polo Shirt, Bowling Jersey, Collared Shirt, Hemmed Jean Shorts, Jeans (neat & clean), Dress or Casual Pants, Capri Pants, Skirt, Skort. **NOT ALLOWED:** T-Shirts, Tank tops, Workout attire (sweat pants, sweatshirts, spandex), Leggings of any kind, Halter tops, Bare midriff/tube tops, Sleeveless tops, and Spaghetti tops, Hats or Headwear, Caps, Clothing with obscenities, Holes, Frays, Tears. The Tournament Director will have the final decision regarding acceptable attire. A Team Pride award will be presented to teams where all members are dressed alike.