2025-26 Bowling Terms and Conditions

In accordance with Section 1.450 of the IHSA Constitution, the Board of Directors has approved the Terms and Conditions governing the 2025-26 IHSA Boys and Girls Bowling State Series.

I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICIATION

Classifications in the IHSA Bowling State Series will be determined according to IHSA Policy 17 (Classification System).

II. DATES AND SITES

A) **Boys' Regionals:** Boys' regional tournaments will be held on Friday, January 16, and on Saturday, January 17, 2026, at eighteen (18) sites.

B) **Boys' Sectionals:** Boys' sectional tournaments will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026, at six (6) sites.

C) **Girls' Regionals:** Girls' regional tournaments will be held on Friday, February 6, and on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at eighteen (18) sites.

D) **Girls' Sectionals:** Girls' sectional tournaments will be held on Saturday, February 14, 2026, at six (6) sites.

E) Regional, sectional sites and, school assignments will be announced at www.ihsa.org through each respective bowling web site.

F) **Boys' State Final:** The Boys' State Final tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday, January 30-31, 2026, at St. Clair Bowl in O'Fallon. O'Fallon High School will serve as the host school.

G) **Girls' State Final**: The Girls' State Final tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday, February 20-21, 2026, in Rockford at The Cherry Bowl. The Cherry Bowl will serve as the host.

III. ONLINE ENTRIES, WITHDRAW PROCEDURES, ELIGIBILITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, AND ON-LINE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A) **Online Entries:** The policy for Original Entry Deadlines, Late Entries, and Late Withdrawals shall be the policies and procedures regarding entry for all IHSA-sponsored sport/activities included in the 2025- 26 Entry Policies and Procedures.

B) **On-Line Entries:** All member schools must enter their school into the state series competition through the IHSA Schools Center on the IHSA Website at (www.ihsa.org). The entry deadline for teams, individuals, and Bowling Chair competitors is November 1.

The 2025-26 Entry Policies and Procedures outlining the online entry procedures for all IHSA-sponsored tournaments can be found in the Schools Center on the IHSA website.

C) **Late Entries:** Any attempt to enter a sport or activity on-line after the established deadlines will be denied. Schools that wish to enter after the deadline will be considered late. To be considered for late entry, the Principal/Official Representative must contact the IHSA administrator officer in charge of that sport or activity. The penalty for late entry shall be a payment of $100.00 for that sport/activity by the school.

D) **Breach of Contract By-Law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedure):** To withdraw without penalty, the Official Representative or Athletic Director must notify Brock Hopp by email (bhopp@hisa.org), of the school's withdrawal from the respective sport prior to the date the List of Participants is due for the sport.

If a school withdraws after the List of Participants due date or does not show up for competition, the school will be charged a $500 penalty. If applicable, the school may be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended school(s) or the Association as a result of such breach.

E) **Eligibility:** All member schools in good standing may enter one team or up to four (4) individual entries, and/or four (4) individuals in each gender for the Bowling Chair competition under the provisions of IHSA By-law 3.054. Individual entries and those individuals entered in the Bowling Chair competition do not have to meet the requirements of IHSA By-law 3.054.

F) **Affirmative Action:** Only girls shall be permitted to participate in the state series except as provided in the IHSA Affirmative Action Policy. Only boys shall be permitted to participate in the state series except as provided in the IHSA Affirmative Action Policy.

G) **List of Participants:** Each school must complete the List of Participants for its team or individuals and/or individuals entered in the Bowling Chair competition through their school center by the deadline date. If a school does not submit the List of Participants for both the able-bodied and Bowling Chair competitions by the deadline, coaches and/or participants from the school are subject to sanctions which could include, but not be limited to, being ruled ineligible to coach or compete in the State Series. **The Boys Bowling List of Participants for both the able- bodied and Bowling Chair competitions are due online by January 13, 2026. The Girls Bowling List of Participants for both the able-bodied and Bowling Chair competitions is due online by February 3, 2026.** Managers will receive the List of Participants via their school center after the List of Participants are due.

IV. HOST FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

A) **Host School and Tournament Expenses:**

1) **Regional Tournaments:** Host school shall pay for all local expenses and issue checks to tournament workers. Host shall receive a guarantee of $400, retain 20% of net income and submit remainder to the IHSA. In the event of a negative balance, the host shall be reimbursed for the entire deficit. If admission is not charged, the host shall forfeit the guarantee.

2) **Sectional Tournaments:** Host school shall pay for all local expenses and issue checks to tournament workers. Host shall receive a guarantee of $400 and receive 20% of net income. If admission is not charged, the host shall forfeit the guarantee.

B) **Digital Tickets:** Per IHSA Board Policy 22, GoFan Digital Tickets will be the exclusive ticket option available for this sport at the Sectional and State Final rounds of the State Series. Any exceptions must be approved by the IHSA office.

C) **Admission Prices:** The following State Series ticket prices have been set by the IHSA Board of Directors. A baby in arms is free at all rounds of the State Series. Pricing for all other individuals is as follows:

1) Regional:
Digital Ticket: $6.00
Cash Ticket: $8.00

2) Sectional:
Digital Ticket: $7.00
Cash Ticket: $9.00

3) State Final
Digital Ticket: $11.00
Cash Ticket: $15.00

D) **Regional/ Sectional and State Final Lane Fees:** Schools participating in the regional or sectional competition will be responsible to pay any lane fees or fees for rental of shoes which might be assessed by the host bowling establishments. Schools participating in the State Finals will not be responsible for lane fees. They will be paid by the IHSA. Shoe rental or lane fees for practice on Thursday, will be the responsibility of the participating school.

E) **Rights Fees for TV and Radio:** See the IHSA website (www.ihsa.org) for the fees to be charged by Local Managers and/or the IHSA for television and cable broadcasts and radio originations.

V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

A) **Tournament Series:** All schools entering teams or individuals will be assigned by the IHSA to one of the Regional and one of the Sectional tournaments. The successive tournament series shall be designated respectively as regional, sectional, and state final. Schools entering the Bowling Class tournament will be assigned directly to one of the Regional tournaments, based on geography. The IHSA Office will select all regional and sectional host sites. Schools will be assigned to a sectional tournament and a subsequent regional tournament based on geography.

B) **Team Roster and Substitutions:** Each school may enter the names of their 8 eligible bowlers participating as a team at the regional, sectional or the state finals. Substitutions are allowed to the team roster prior to the start of the regional or sectional tournament or at the start of the state finals. The regional or sectional manager should be notified of any substitutions to the roster. The IHSA should be notified of any changes to the state final roster from the winner report, immediately after the regional or sectional.

C) **Individual Entries:** Schools may enter individuals to compete in the state series. Individuals competing for individual honors are not required to have competed in six (6) contests. A school must enter their list of participants for individual entries by January 13, 2026, for boys and February 3, 2026, for girls.

A school can enter no more than 4 individuals for individual honors. Any school with 5 or more players must compete for team honors and the school must have participated in six (6) varsity contests prior to the state series.

Bowling Chair Class: Schools may enter individuals to compete in the Bowling Class state series. Individuals competing in the Bowling Class are not required to have competed in six (6) contests. A school must enter their list of participants for the Bowling Class by January 13, 2026, for boys and February 3, 2026, for girls.

A school can enter no more than (4) individuals of each gender in the Bowling Chair Class.

D) **Regional/Sectional Tournament Structure:**

1) Assignment of schools to the regional tournaments will be made based on IHSA Policy.
2) Each school entering individuals in the Bowling Chair competition shall be assigned to one of the regional tournaments
3) The regional/sectional manager shall start no earlier than 9:00 am and no later than 11 am.
4) Regional/Sectional tournaments will consist of two (2) rounds of competition. All teams entered in the regionals or sectionals will bowl both rounds. A round shall consist of a three (3) game series. In the Bowling Chair Class, competition will consist of two (2) rounds of competition at the regional.
5) All bowling balls used in the series must adhere to Interscholastic High School Bowling Rules.

E) State Final Tournament Structure:

1) The state final tournament will consist of four (4) rounds of competition. A round shall be a three-game series. In the Bowling Chair Class, competition will consist of two (2) rounds of competition on Saturday of the State Finals.
2) The state series tournaments will recognize team honors and individual honors. In the Bowling Chair Class, the state series tournaments will recognize individual honors.
3) Teams and individuals will quality to advance from Friday's rounds to Saturday's Rounds.

VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEUDLES

The Boys State Final Time Schedule is as Follows:

Friday

7:30 a.m.	Doors open for teams and individual competitors and their coaches.
8:00 a.m.	Doors open to the general public
8:30 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies
8:45 a.m.	Warm up for Round 1
9:00 a.m.	First Round (24 teams and 30 individuals)
12:15-12:45 p.m.	30-minute lunch period
12:45-1:00 p.m.	Warm up for Round 2
1:00 p.m.	Second round begins (24 teams 30 individuals)
3:15 p.m. approx.	Second round completed Saturday

Saturday

7:15 a.m.	Doors open for competitors in the Bowling Chair Class and their coaches ONLY
7:30 a.m.	Doors open for 2nd day qualifying teams, ` individuals, and their coaches.
8:00 a.m.	Doors open to the general public
8:30 a.m.	Introductions
8:45 a.m.	Warm up for Round 3 and Bowling Chair Class
9:00 am	Third Round (12 teams and 30 individuals) and Bowling Chair Class
12:15-12:45 p.m.	30-minute lunch period
12:45-1:00 p.m.	Warm up for Round 4
1:00 p.m.	Fourth round (12 teams and 30 individuals) and Bowling Chair Class
4:00 p.m. approx.	Awards ceremony (immediately following round 4)

The Girls State Final Time Schedule is as Follows:

Friday

7:30 a.m.	Doors open for teams and individual competitors and their coaches.
8:00 a.m.	Doors open to the general public
8:30 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies
8:45 a.m.	Warm up for Round 1
9:00 a.m.	First Round (24 teams and 30 individuals)
12:15-12:45 p.m.	30-minute lunch period
12:45-1:00 p.m.	Warm up for Round 2
1:00 p.m.	Second round begins (24 teams 30 individuals)
3:15 p.m. approx.	Second round completed Saturday

Saturday

7:15 a.m.	Doors open for competitors in the Bowling Chair Class and their coaches ONLY
7:30 a.m.	Doors open for 2nd day qualifying teams, ` individuals, and their coaches.
8:00 a.m.	Doors open to the general public
8:30 a.m.	Introductions
8:45 a.m.	Warm up for Round 3 and Bowling Chair Class
9:00 am	Third Round (12 teams and 30 individuals) and Bowling Chair Class
12:15-12:45 p.m.	30-minute lunch period
12:45-1:00 p.m.	Warm up for Round 4
1:00 p.m.	Fourth round (12 teams and 30 individuals) and Bowling Chair Class
4:00 p.m. approx.	Awards ceremony (immediately following round 4)

VII. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

A) **Regional Team Advancement:** At each regional competition, the four (4) teams with the highest pin count for both rounds (round one score added to round two score) shall be the winners and advance to the sectional competition.

B) **Sectional Team Advancement:**
1) **Boys:** At each sectional competition, the four (4) teams with the highest pin count for both rounds (round one score added to round two score) shall be the winners and advance to the state final tournament.
2) **Girls:** At each sectional competition, the four (4) teams with the highest pin count for both rounds (round one score added to round two score) shall be the winners and advance to the state final tournament.

C) **Regional/Sectional Team Tie Breaker:** In case of a team tie for the last qualifying spot advancing from the regional or sectional competition, a tiebreaker will be implemented. A two-frame roll off will take place beginning with the 9th frame and concluding with the 10th frame. If the score is still tied after the first tiebreaker, a second tiebreaker will be conducted using the same format. Teams will be allowed in the first tiebreaker, one practice ball per lane with no re-racks. Teams will begin their 9th frame tiebreaker on the same lane they competed on in their last game. The open substitution rule will apply to all tiebreakers. The best score shall advance.

D) **Regional Individual Advancement:**
1) At each regional competition, the top ten (10) individuals who are not a part of a qualifying team shall advance to the sectional.
2) Bowling Chair Class: At each regional competition in the Bowling Chair Class, the top two (2) individuals shall advance to the state meet.

E) **Sectional Individual Advancement:**
1) Boys: At each sectional competition, the top five (5) individuals who are not a part of a qualifying team shall advance to the state meet.
2) Girls: At each sectional competition, the top five (5) individuals who are not a part of a qualifying team shall advance to the state meet.

F) **Regional/Sectional Individual Advancement Alternates:** If an individual bowler from a given regional or sectional cannot participate in the sectional or state final, as certified by the high school principal or athletic director, the next eligible bowler from the regional or sectional will advance in that place. The principal or athletic director from the high school of the bowler withdrawing from the competition MUST notify the IHSA in writing by 4:15 pm. on the Tuesday prior to the next level of competition. The IHSA will notify the new advancing individual by 8:30 am. Wednesday morning. After the stated deadlines have passed, no alternate bowler will be filled for the open position.

G) **Regional/Sectional Individual Tie Breaker:** The bowlers shall be placed in reverse order based on their final game score. The bowler with the highest final game score bowls last. Once bowlers are placed in order based on their scores, the odd number bowlers will bowl on the left lane and even number bowlers will bowl on the right lane of the predetermined pair.

H) **State Final Team Tie Breaker:** In case of a team tie for the last qualifying spot, a tiebreaker will be implemented. A two-frame roll off will take place beginning with the 9th frame and concluding with the 10th frame. If the score is still tied after the first tiebreaker, a second tiebreaker will be conducted using the same format. Teams will be allowed in the first tiebreaker, one practice ball per lane with no re-racks. Teams will begin their 9th frame tiebreaker on the same lane they competed on in their last game. The open substitution rule will apply to all tiebreakers. The best score shall advance.

I) **State Final Individual Tie Breaker:** In the case of a tie for the last individual qualifying spot, a tiebreaker will be implemented. A two-frame roll off will take place beginning with the 9th frame and concluding with the 10th frame. The individuals involved in the tie breaker will begin their roll-

off on a neutral pair of lanes. If the score is still tied after the first tiebreaker, a second tiebreaker will be conducted using the same format. Individuals in the first tiebreaker will be allowed one (1) practice ball per lane.

J) State Final Team Advancement to Saturday: All teams at the State Final shall bowl round one (1) and round two (2), six (6) games, on the first day of competition. The twelve (12) teams with the highest total pin count for two (2) rounds (round 1 score added to round 2 score) shall advance to the third (3rd) round and fourth (4th) rounds. Ties for the last qualifying team spot will use the same tie breaker used in the sectionals.

K) State Final Individual Advancement to Saturday: All individuals competing in the state tournament shall be eligible for individual honors. All individual qualifiers will bowl round one (1) and round two (2) on the first day of competition. The thirty (30) individuals that are not a part of a team with the highest total pin count for two (2) rounds (round 1 score added to round 2 score) shall advance to the third (3rd) round and fourth (4th) round. Ties for the last qualifying spot shall be broken using the sectional tiebreaker on neutral lanes. A neutral pair of lanes is defined as any lanes the competition did not bowl on for game 6 or round 2.

VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES

A) **Rosters and Lineup**

1) **Team Entry:** Any member school in good standing with the IHSA is eligible to enter one (1) team in the sectional tournaments provided they have competed in six (6) interscholastic contests prior to the start of sectionals. A team shall consist of five bowlers. Pacer teams or individual entries are not allowed in the state series. For the Bowling Chair Class, any member school can enter four (4) individuals in each gender. For the Bowling Chair Class, competitors do not need to be in compliance with IHSA By-law 3.054.

2) **Team Roster:** A school shall have no more than eight (8) eligible participants entered for either the sectional tournament or the state final tournament. A team roster may not be changed following the start of either level. The List of Participants entry at the sectional will be considered the entry for the state tournament unless the IHSA is notified by the school of a change. It is recommended that schools notify the IHSA Office with changes to the roster by the Monday following the sectional meet. While substitutions can be made prior to the state finals competition, the List of Participants will be considered the team roster unless otherwise changed.

3) **Individual Entries:** Any member school without a team and in good standing with the IHSA, may enter individuals to compete in the state series. Any school with 5 or more players must compete for team honors and the school must have participated in six (6) varsity contests prior to the state series. A school must enter their List of Participants for individual entries by January 13, 2026, for boys bowling and February 3, 2026, for girls bowling. Individuals competing for individual honors are not required to have competed in six (6) contests. A school can enter no more than 4 individuals for individual honors.

B) **Player Equipment and Uniform**

1) **Uniforms:** All competitors shall appear in appropriate matching tops and bottoms for their schools bowling uniform. All players, team and individual, and coaches shall conform to the dress code provisions. Slacks, shorts, turtlenecks, sports shirts with collars, T-shirts with a commercially lettered school name and logo, nice jeans and/or skirts are acceptable team apparel. Coaches may wear school emblemed headwear during competition. Unacceptable apparel includes but is not limited to tank tops, cut offs, T-shirts that advertised alcohol, drugs or explicit material, jeans with holes or patches, hats, or headgear and/or boxer type shorts, and lettering or graphics across the back of the pants.

2) **Glitter:** Participants are prohibited from wearing spray glitter.

3) **Electronic Devices:** Competitors and coaches are prohibited from playing music with or without headphones, using cell phones, electronic devices or any unusual equipment that might be distracting or assist a bowler in receiving outside coaching or instruction at any time including during warmups. Players are also prohibited from wearing any SMART watch that can receive information at any time during warmups or competition. Any player caught wearing a SMART watch will receive a zero for the frame they are caught in and a zero in any subsequent frame until the watch is removed. Coaches are allowed to electronic devices in the pit area (for example: for statistic taking purposes). Any videotaping or photographs taken can only be reviewed during the break between rounds. Competitors will not be allowed to use electronic devices during competition.

4) **Ball Certification:** Ball Certification: All bowling balls must meet USBC specifications as defined in the latest edition of the Equipment Specifications and Certification Manual. Any bowling ball that does not meet the specifications will be removed from the regional, sectional, or state final competition until the ball meets the legal specifications. In order for a bowling ball to be considered legal, it must not be used prior to the date the ball is available to be purchased by the general public. If it is shown that the bowler had prior knowledge of violating the specifications, the bowler shall receive a zero for every frame the illegal ball was used in for unsportsmanlike conduct. The tournament director shall report any violations to the IHSA office

5) **Bowling Ball Alteration:** In accordance with USA Interscholastic Bowling Rules, bowlers are allowed to alter the surface of the ball during warm- ups and between rounds by using abrasives such as sandpaper, scotch bright, liquid abrasive, and polishing machines. During play, bowlers will be limited to following current USBC rules in terms of ball cleaning. Abrasives and polishing machines are prohibited.

6) **Bowling Balls in Competition Area:** Bowlers are limited to no more than two bowling balls per competitor in the pit area. Any bowling ball in the pit area must be secured on a ball rack, on a ball cup, or be placed on the floor in a ball bag or cup. At no time can bowling balls be stored on tables or counters without a ball cup or be placed loose on the floor. Any

additional ball would be required to be stored in a tote or on a ball rack adjacent to the pit area that is identified by the tournament management.

7) **Wheelchair (Bowling Chair Class only):** All athletes entered in the Bowling Chair Class will compete in a wheelchair of any variety. It is the responsibility of the student-athlete and his/her family to provide the wheelchair and other equipment which the athlete will use for competition.

C) **The Competition Area**

1) **Players in Competition Area:** Eight (8) players from a team will be allowed in the competition area. The penalty for players exceeding the eight (8) player participants rule will be for the first offense – 10 pin team deductions, the second offense – 50 pin team deductions, the third offense – 100 pin team deductions and the fourth offense is team disqualification. No warning shall be made prior to the assessment of the penalty.

2) **Coaches in Competition Area:** In each of the games, a participating school, which has a team competing, may have no more than two (2) coaches in the competition area. Two (2) coaches' passes will be provided to schools that have a team competing. In each of the games, a participating school that has only individuals competing may have no more than one (1) coach in the competition area. One (1) coaches' pass will be provided to schools that have individual(s) competing. Coaches' names shall be listed on the school's List of Participants and be in compliance with IHSA By-law 2.070. Coaches who are coaching shall remain in or behind the competitors seating area during the competition.

a. In the Bowling Chair Class, a participating school may have no more than two (2) coaches in the competition area. These names shall be listed on the school's List of Participants and be in compliance with IHSA By-law 2.070.

The tournament management will assess penalties when violations occur. Penalties will accumulate for the tournament. Penalties for violation of coaches in competition area are: first offense - 10 pin team deduction, second offense - 50 pin team deductions, third team offense - 100 pin team deductions, and fourth team offense- team disqualification.

b. Only Coaches who meet the IHSA By-law requirements of 2.070 and have taken and completed all required examinations are allowed to coach. Outside individual caught coaching will be subject to removal from the facility and penalties, as outlined below, will be passed on to the participant receiving the advice.

c. Penalties will accumulate for the tournament. Penalties for violation of coaches in competition area are: first offense - 50 team pin deduction/10 individual pin deductions, second offense – 100 team pin deductions/20 individual pin deductions , third team offense - 200 team pin deductions/40 individual pin deductions, and fourth team or individual offense – disqualification.

D) **Conduct**

1) **Conduct of Coaches and Players**: The captain and the coach shall be the official representatives of their team in all communications with the scorers and the tournament officials. The coach(es), the eight (8) bowlers participating in a round and the official scorer (if used) are the only persons authorized to be in the area immediately surrounding the scorers' table. Unsportsmanlike conduct of bowlers, scorekeepers, coaches, or fans shall be in violation of By-laws 3.141, 6.011 and 6.012.

E) **The Game:** The Standard tenpin scoring format will be used. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the IHSA printed instructions, the USA Interscholastic High School Bowling Rules and the IHSA Terms and Conditions shall govern equipment and competition in all rounds.

1) **Bowling Practice and Warm-ups:** None of the bowling lanes within the bowling establishment shall be used for practice on the day of the regionals, sectionals, or the state finals. This includes any individual or team members (starters or non-starters) on the day(s) of tournament play. A scheduled fifteen minutes will be allowed for practice balls during the tournament with seven and a half minutes on each lane. The penalty for bowling prior to this schedule is disqualification of the team or individual from the tournament.

a. an Uneven Regional: During practice time your first bowler cannot bowl on the second lane until the fifth bowler is done.

b. If a lane breakdown occurs during warm- ups, and no alternate lane is available, teams on the broken pair will receive additional warm-up time, no longer than 10 minutes. Time should be prorated based on the length of time of the breakdown and the length of time left in the warm-up.

2) **Substitutions:** Coaches may make a substitution in the middle of a game provided the frame is complete. Once the substitution has taken place the bowler who was removed may not re-enter that game or substitute for any other position in that game until the next game. Multiple substitutions for a position are allowed.

The coach making the substitution shall notify the coach who is on the same pair of lanes of the substitution. The frame and the position in which the substitution was made shall be noted on the score sheet along with the name of the substitute.

In the event of an illegal substitution, a 30-pin deduction from the individuals score shall be assessed for each of the frame(s) the illegal substitute bowled. The overall penalty shall not to exceed the bowler's actual score.

3) **Individual Honors:** Individual bowlers will advance based on their total pin fall in complete game scores. Bowlers with the highest pin fall will earn individual honors and advance.

4) **Time Between Rounds:** There shall be a minimum of thirty (30) minutes between rounds of tournament competition.

5) **Official Score:** Coaches shall sign the score sheet to accept the score of teams and/or individuals as official. Addition errors or errors that can be verified may be corrected without penalty.

6) **Open Lane:** (See Lane Assignment and Conditions).

7) **Shot Clock:** A student has 30 seconds from the time the pin setter arm goes up to start the delivery of their ball. This would only be implemented if a situation occurs

where a team or individual takes an exorbitant amount of time. The shot clock would not be used in case of a lane break down or some unforeseen incident that the student-athlete cannot control. A member of the Games Committee would keep the clock. The Tournament Manager would determine whether or not the team or individual gets placed on the shot clock. Putting a team or individual on the clock would be the only warning the team or individual would get. Penalty for violation of the shot clock would be:

- 1st — a zero on the ball that went over the shot clock time
- 2nd– a zero for the frame
- 3rd – a zero for the game

F) **Lane Assignments and Conditions**

1) **Regional/Sectional Conditions**: It is required that at the regionals or sectionals, the lanes be oiled with a house league/house shot condition.
2) **Regional/Sectional Seeding Information:** At the regionals and sectionals, teams will not be seeded.

Regional participants will be placed in their lanes based on the luck of the draw. Sectional participants will be placed on their lanes based on their finish in the regional by using the chart in the Manual for Schools and Hosts. In the Bowling Chair Class, individuals will be assigned their lanes for the entire post season based on the luck of the draw.

3) **Regional/Sectional Lane Rotation:** Host schools must follow the lane rotations that are laid out in the Manager's Manual.
4) **Regional/Sectional Block System:** It is recommended that managers use the block system at the regionals/sectionals. Odd lanes move a block left at the break and even lanes rotate a block right at the break.
5) **Sectional Individual Lane Assignments:** At the sectional, seeding adjustments will be made so that players from the same school will be assigned to the same lane for the sectional tournament.
6) **Open Lane at Regional:** Once bowling begins, the team competing on an open lane will have its lead off bowler wait until the last bowler on the team has completed his/her frame to being bowling. Pacer teams are not allowed.
7) **Lane Breakdown:** In the event of a lane breakdown that takes more than 15 minutes, the bowlers shall move to an open pair of lanes to the right of their block. In the event of a hard break, pins should be re-set at the time of the break on the new lanes. One practice ball on each new lane will be allowed for each bowler as a warmup. The remainder of competition must be finished using the new lanes regardless of the original pair being repaired, unless there is a situation where other lanes breakdown and that is the only remaining pair available.
8) **State Final Round 1 and Round 2 Blocks**: 6 lanes make up a block. 24 teams will be assigned to one of 5 blocks. 30 individual qualifiers will also be assigned to one of the 5 blocks. When two "Individual Teams" are placed in a block, they shall be assigned to the same pair of lanes. Round 1 and Round 2 assignments are based on the luck of the draw. Note: Individual qualifiers from the same school will stay together for Rounds 1 and 2 but not for Rounds 3 and 4. A true seed will be used for Rounds 3 and 4 and therefore no accommodation shall be made for individuals from the same school.
9) **State Final Round 1 and 2 Rotation:** Teams will rotate within their block after each game. Bowlers initially starting on the even numbered lane will rotate one pair of lanes to the right within the block. The bowlers starting on the odd numbered lane will rotate one pair of lanes to the left within the block. Following Round 1 teams initially assigned to an even lane will rotate two blocks to their right to start Round 2. Teams that were initially assigned to odd lanes will rotate two **blocks to their left to start Round 2.**
10) **State Final Round 3 and Round 4 Blocks:** The top 4 teams and top 10 individuals will be placed in one block. The next 4 teams and next 10 individuals will be placed in a new block followed by the remaining 4 teams and remaining 10 individuals placed in the final block using the same format. The seeds will be placed in the block of lanes so that the best seeds will be next to each other for the final game of the round. After Round 3 and for Round the seeded blocks will rotate so that the seeded positions are rotated to new blocks.
11) In the Bowling Chair Class, competitors will bowl their series at both the sectional and state finals without rotating pairs of lanes.

G) **State Final Lane Assignments and Conditions**

1) State Final Lane Conditions: It is required at the state finals, the bowling center put out a legal USBC House Shot to be approved by the IHSA. At the state finals, lanes will be oiled for round one (1) on Friday and Round three (3) on Saturday and at no other time.

IX. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

A) **State Final Passes:** A maximum of eight (8) passes will be issued to competitors from qualifying teams whose names are listed on the List of Participants. In addition, a maximum of three (3) coach's passes will be issued for coaches of qualifying teams whose names are listed on the List of Participants. In addition, for the purpose of access into the competition area, two (2) pit passes will be provided to teams.

One (1) pass will be issued for each individual qualifier and up to two (2) coaches passes will be issued to a school with individual qualifiers, including those in the Bowling Chair Class. In addition, for the purpose of access into the competition area, one (1) pit pass will be provided to a school with individual qualifier(s). Schools with only one (1) individual qualifier can request a companion pass to bring one (1) teammate with them to the state finals. The companion pass will only allow entry into the facility, not into the pit area.

School Administrators may pick up their passes at the state final. Administrative passes will be available at the pass gate before the competition begins or in tournament central after competition begins.

B) **Competitor Pass Gate:** Only coaches and competitors who have been issued a pass shall be allowed through the pass gate and bowling center early on Friday. Following the Friday cuts, only coaches and bowlers who qualify for Saturday's finals shall be allowed through the pass gate or bowling center early. Individuals who do not qualify for the

Saturday finals will be allowed entrance into the tournament with the general public at no charge.

C) **Artificial Noisemakers:** Horns, whistles and artificial noisemakers that are disruptive to the tournament management are prohibited during competition.

D) **Cheering:** Bowlers shall not participate in any chanting, cheering, or noisemaking while on the approach

E) **Signs, Banners, and Placards:** The display of signs, banners, placards or similar items at the IHSA state series events is permitted, provided they are in good taste and reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use; they reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their school/community; they are not displayed on the field or play or in a manner, which interferes with play; they do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators and they are not hazardous.

F) **Damage to Property or Equipment:** If contestants or people from any school entered in a state series are found guilty of carelessness or maliciously breaking, damaging or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host site, such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in replacing or repairing such property or equipment.

G) **Media Requirements:**

1) **Provide Space:** Space shall be set aside to provide for news media representatives covering the state series whether they are from newspapers, radio stations, commercial television stations and/or cable television stations.

2) **Radio and TV Originators:** It is the responsibility of the Local Manager to accept applications, approve requests to originate, collect proper rights fees payment (where required) and make cancellation refunds for television and/or radio play-by-play origination's, according to the IHSA Television and/or IHSA Radio Broadcast Policy.

a. Television Rights Fees for all levels of competition below the State Final level shall be paid to the host school and shall become part of the revenue to be shared by the member school(s) and the Association according to the financial terms stipulated in these Terms and Conditions.

b. Radio Broadcast Rights Fees are not required for any level of competition in this series (except State Final). Local Managers shall permit radio play-by-play originations of the competition.

c. Television and/or Radio Stations which do not apply in advance, or which do not pay required rights fees prior to the start of competition in each respective level in this state series shall not be given credentials nor allowed access to the facility to originate. Sponsors of the originations for television and radio shall be only those so stipulated in the respective IHSA Television and Broadcast policies.

H) **Cameras, Video Equipment:** No cameras with flashes can be used during the competition. Only handheld video cameras will be permitted.

I) **Photographer Access:** During the sectional or state final warm up period, photographers will be allowed to take pictures from the lanes. A flash camera can be used. Once the competition begins, no flash cameras can be used and in addition, no photographers will be allowed in the competition area. During the final session of the state tournament, if blinds are set up, photographers who have been issued an IHSA media pass will be allowed access to the blinds for the purpose of photographing or televising competitors. The blinds located on the outside of the lanes will not have any restrictions to when they are used. The blinds set up in the middle of the competition lanes will have limited access. Once the competition begins, photographers using the middle blind must either leave the blind or remain in the blind until the round is completed.

J) **Tobacco/Liquid Nicotine Products:** The use of tobacco or liquid nicotine products in any competition area, either during a practice or while a contest is in progress, or affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest by any coach, player, any other person connected with a team, or fan shall be prohibited. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, tobacco/liquid nicotine free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site.

K) **Use of Inhalers:** A student with asthma may possess and use his/her medication during an IHSA competition while under the supervision of school personnel, provided the school meets the outlined procedures of self-administration in the Illinois school code.

L) **Prayer at IHSA State Series Contest:** Prayer at an IHSA state series contest that takes place over the public address system is prohibited.

M) **Alcoholic Beverages and IHSA State Series Events:** The possession, distribution, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Violation of this policy by an event host will subject the host to a penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Such penalty may include but not necessarily be limited to prohibition against subsequent event hosting assignments. Violation of this policy by a non-hosting member school will subject the school to penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Patrons of any IHSA state series contest determined to be in violation of this policy will be removed from the premise, and law enforcement officials will be called as warranted. No ticket refunds will be granted in such cases.

N) **AED:** Host schools must have an AED available and on site at all IHSA post season contests.

O) **Ladders:** No ladders, step stools, and/or chairs will be allowed to be brought in at any state series location from regionals through the State Finals.

X. AWARDS

A) **Regional**

1) **Individual Awards:** The top 4 placing individuals will be awarded a medal when round one score is added to round two score. In the Bowling Chair Class, awards will be given to the top four (4) placing individuals at the sectional tournament.

2) **Team Awards:** A plaque will be presented to the winning school in each regional.

B) **Sectional**
   1) **Individual Awards:** The top 4 placing individuals will be awarded a medal when round one
   2) Team Awards: A plaque will be presented to the winning school in each sectional.
   3) Duplicate individual awards shall be given at the regional, sectional, and state final tournaments for the last eligible spot.

C) **State Final**
   1) **Individual Awards:** A medallion will be awarded to the twelve places in the state final individual competition who score the highest total pin fall count (round one score added to round two score added to round three score added to round four score). A tie will be broken for 1st place. (See the State Final Individual Tiebreaker)
      a. **Bowling Chair Class:** Awards will be given to the top 6 finishers in the boys' division and the top 6 finishers in the girls' division at the state final meet. A tie will be broken for 1st place. (See the State Final Individual Tiebreaker)
   2) **Team Awards:** A trophy will be presented to the first, second, and third place school winners. Medallions will be presented to the first, second, and third place team members. In addition, a principal's medallion and an Athletic Directors medallion will be presented to the first, second, and third place teams. A tie will be broken for 1st place. (See the State Final Team Tiebreaker)
   3) Duplicate school awards for the state final will be presented in case of a tie for the last spot.

D) **Administrative Awards:** Medallions will be awarded to the superintendent, principal, and athletic director of the first through third place teams at the state final.

XI. OFFICIALS

A) **Scorekeeper:** Each participating school team shall furnish its own scorekeeper at the regional tournament if the house does not have automatic scoring. The official scorekeepers will be a head or assistant coach, a bowling team member, or a designated faculty representative.

B) **Games Committee**: A games committee at the Regional and Sectional will be composed of three coaches from competing schools, as determined by the host school prior to the start of the event. The state final manager, an IHSA representative, the bowling proprietor, an IHSA rule interpreter, and other designee shall make up the games committee for the State Final Tournaments.